

# Portugal crisis deepens as anti-communist anger erupts

Leadership crisis deepened in Portugal today as the three-man military ruling group for the fourth time in three days named government and anti-communist violence in the north. Two men in a crowd killed when troops opened fire.

## Leaders fail again to name government

Michael Knipe  
Aug 4

men were killed today in northern Portugal as internal security forces, troops, fired on communist demonstrators. The country's leadership crisis deepened after three days, with military triumvirate naming a new provisional government.

It intensified the belief the moderate President Gomes is being joined by Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho, commander of the internal security force, to the third of the ruling group, Vasco Gonçalves, the triumvirate held a meeting with about 50 members of the Army's internal force.

Violence in Fátima on Friday when workers at a factory apparently tried to disarm the military leaders, the country's chief of state, General Spínola, said, and the future of the revolution depended on them.

The crowd erupted into noise and derisive whistles at the mention of the names of the military leaders. The bishop said the church was extremely apprehensive about Portugal's future. The country was suffering from arbitrary imprisonment and a daily increase in violence, and there was no genuine press freedom. The people's political opinions were being insulted by minority groups.

Dr. Mario Soares, the Socialist Party leader, returned from Scandinavia last night and repeated that his party wanted a government of national unity which could rely on the support of all factions within the Armed Forces Movement and the progressive, patriotic and revolutionary forces.

The Communist Party leader, Dr. Álvaro Cunhal, gave a warning in a weekend speech in the southern city of Évora of the danger of a "reactionary coup". He admitted that the party was facing difficulties in the northern and central areas of the country.

An assembly meeting of the Communist Party, which began at the Amadora barracks on the outskirts of Lisbon today at which its moderate commander, Colonel Jaime Neves, is contesting his removal from control by a left-wing group of soldiers.

# Thunder forecast as Europe bakes in sun

A heatwave across northern Europe is proving a mixed blessing—joy for holidaymakers and fear of damaged crops for thousands of farmers, Reuters correspondents report.

In Britain temperatures of more than 33°C (92°F) were reached yesterday—some of the highest ever recorded. But abundant showers already over Cornwall and the Channel Islands are expected to move "very slowly" across the country today and interrupt the sunshine for a day or so.

Like Britain, many parts of the Continent are experiencing the driest summer for a generation with peaches packed everywhere. In Russia, for instance, it has brought a holidaymaker's heaven, but the hot sun has also taken Soviet agriculture to the brink of a serious harvest failure. While not so hot as summer 1972, when peat bogs in central Russia burst spontaneously into flame, it has been so warm—in the upper 80s F since June—that tourists have been sunbathing and swimming in the usually icy White Sea of the north.

The Scandinavians are sweltering. After eight weeks of high temperatures, farmers in southern Sweden say the drought has already damaged wheat and berry crops. Norway and Finland report similar weather.

The driest summer for a generation in Denmark has left farmers in parts of Jutland without rain since May and fearing that their barley harvest will be down to 50 per cent of normal. Elsewhere in Denmark crops could be down 5 to 10 per cent.

France could be facing its worst drought in 70 years. Water rationing has already been imposed on several rural areas, particularly Brittany, Normandy, the south-east and the south-west, with temperatures rising over 30°C (86°F).

In West Germany, where 35°C (95°F), the highest temperature for 25 years, was recorded in Bavaria, a farmers' spokesman described the crop as "good to middling".

But across the Atlantic, a break in the weather might be an omen of wetter days to come for Europe. After four days of up to 35°C (95°F), cool winds started to blow in New York yesterday. The skies were overcast and a colder front was reported to be moving on the city.

Weather forecast, page 2

# Japan agrees to release jailed terrorists as gunmen hold 50 people hostage

Japanese Red Army gunmen demanding the release of seven of their colleagues from prison in Japan and Sweden tonight are holding some 50 people hostage in a 12-storey building in the centre of Kuala Lumpur.

Seventeen of the hostages who have been identified include Mr Robert Siebbs, the United States consul, and Mr Fredrik Bergsten, the Swedish Chargé d'Affaires.

A security guard is seriously ill after being shot in the face and two policemen have been wounded. The gunmen, believed to number four, have fired several shots to keep back watching crowds.

The Japanese Government has agreed to release the seven prisoners and to fly them in a Japan Airlines aircraft to Kuala Lumpur, where it will pick up the terrorists as well and head for either Kuwait or Lebanon.

Tan Sri V. Manickavasagam, Malaysia's Communications Minister, entered the building for a second time at 8 pm to carry on negotiations. He was inside at 10 pm. After his earlier visit he said he had passed on a message from the Malaysian Government to the Japanese Government to the gunmen by telephone. He had not met them face to face.

Tan Sri Manickavasagam carried on his negotiations from the sixth floor of the American International Assurance building. The American embassy occupies three floors from the ninth floor upwards in the same building. The Swedish embassy is on the ninth floor.

Most of the hostages are workers in the embassies or people who had been there on business. They are known to include five Americans, four Australians, one Japanese and one Singaporean.

At 10.45 am the gunmen entered the American embassy. An alarm was sounded and the Sikh watchman, armed only with a nightstick, went by lift to the ninth floor. He was shot in the face and was sent back down in the same lift. Several shots were fired.

The gunmen have been visible at least once from the ground, apparently wearing white masks. At one stage a press photographer using a long lens camera saw a gun barrel emerge from a window and appear to aim at him. He ducked, a shot was fired and a policeman a few feet away fell, wounded in the chest. The photographer threw his camera away and dragged the policeman behind cover.

Late tonight hundreds of people were watching the build-



A policeman hit in the leg by a terrorist bullet is carried away from the building where the Japanese Red Army were holding their hostages.

ing, which was floodlit and ringed by policemen from a safe distance. Foreign correspondents had arrived from Singapore and even from Hong Kong, and all seemed set for a long vigil.

The seven men whom the terrorists want released are named as Kasuo Tohira, Jun Nishikawa, Kumi Bando, Hiroshi Sakaguchi, Junichi Matsura, Hisashi Matsuda and Norio Sasaki.

Washington, Aug 4.—The release of the seven terrorists jailed in Japan was ordered by Mr Takeo Miki, the Japanese Prime Minister, who is visiting Washington.

His spokesman said: "The Prime Minister has agreed that the Japanese Government, from the basic position of placing top priority on the respect for

human life, will accommodate the demands of the terrorists in accordance with the judgment and policy of the Malaysian Government and take the seven whom the terrorists are demanding to Malaysia."

Mr Miki arrived in Washington this morning for a meeting with President Ford, who will return from a European tour tonight.—Reuters.

Tokyo, Aug 4.—Two of the seven Japanese Red Army men whose release has been demanded by the terrorists today refused to leave for the Malaysian capital. They were named as Junichi Matsura, aged 28, and Hiroshi Sakaguchi. The other five, however, were prepared to take part in the deal, a Government spokesman said.

Mr Matsura's father, who is 64, confirmed that his son

would not go. "Released on bail, he is now recuperating at home quietly and has no interest in the present case,"—Agence France-Presse.

Stockholm, Aug 4.—The Swedish Foreign Ministry today asked Japan to take any possible steps to save the lives of the Swedish embassy staff held hostage.—UPI.

Spectacular, ruthless terrorists, page 4

# 'The Observer' dismisses three-tenths of its employees

By Tim Jones  
Labour Staff

The management of The Observer decided yesterday to send out redundancy notices to about three-tenths of its 700 employees after failing to reach a voluntary agreement with the printing unions over its proposals for reducing the work force. Last month the management disclosed that the newspaper was heading for a £750,000 loss this year and said that unless agreement was reached within six weeks the company would run out of money.

Although agreement has been reached with members of the National Union of Journalists and with clerical and cleaning

staff, the management said that counter-suggestions by machine operators of the National Society of Operative Printers (Nasop), the National Graphical Association, and the Society of Graphical and Allied Trades (Sogat) fell "far short of the company's urgent need."

In its statement, the management said that the Observer believed today that it was very close to full agreement on the savings for which it has asked in the areas where full-time staff are employed. It has been greatly encouraged by the help it has had from trade union officials, chapels and staff.

Nakala, a member of the executive of the ANC, said today that the Rhodesian Government intended to ban the council to clear the way for constitutional talks with "other groups of Africans."

Mr Nakala claimed that the ban had been planned for last week but had been postponed because of the South African Government's reaction to the idea.

Recall of police, page 4

duction costs are incurred. Suppliers have been asked to make chapels that they fall far short of the company's urgent need.

The company, therefore, after six weeks of negotiations and frank disclosure of its financial position, has been left with no alternative but to give notice on the basis that it advised might be necessary in early June. This step, however, will be operated on a last-in-first-out basis, may exclude from redundancy terms some of the older part-time staff who wish to take time off.

The company has offered, however, to amend the list during the week by substituting names of any who wish to leave for those who do not, but has had to make it clear that the savings it is seeking have got to be effective this week.

The management has said it is confident that once the reduc-

tions are made it will be able to "maintain the newspaper's excellence." The unions, which have made undisclosed alternative proposals to the management, have maintained that it would not be practicable to produce a newspaper with the number of people suggested.

Nasop officials say they have been asked to agree to an unacceptable 45 per cent reduction in their work force. The union's executive held discussions in Brighton yesterday, but there was no comment after the meeting.

The management will have an indication of the degree of opposition it faces tomorrow when several part-time printing workers are due for work.

# M Giscard to show off the Concorde

From Richard Wigg  
Paris, Aug 4

President Giscard d'Estaing is to use the Anglo-French Concorde aircraft on "T-day" when he leaves Paris for an official visit to Zaire. He will thus assist French efforts to get the supersonic airliner well noticed before it starts its scheduled commercial flights, perhaps by Christmas this year, as Paris sees it.

M. Marcel Cavaillé, the French Secretary of State for Transport, called for new efforts to interest other airlines in buying the aircraft.

"Decisions must be taken shortly," he went on. He said he wrote in his British opposite number last June, but has not yet received a reply.

"I am waiting to hear from Britain, for we shall either make Concorde with Britain or we will not make it at all."

# rs Gandhi's Bill presented

a handful of Mrs. Gandhi's supporters and one dissident attended the Lower House of Parliament in Delhi yesterday when the Bill was read to abolish the Prime Minister of India's office, of which she was convicted in the Bhopal case.

The Bill is expected to be carried easily.

Page 4

# omey report denied

ations by the Vanguard Unionists that Mr J. T. Omeley, the Provisional IRA leader, was seen in Belfast last week and had not been arrested were denied by the Army last night.

Page 2

# prus accusation

he Athens trial of 80 former junta leaders, an opposition party leader, accused a group of pro-French policy on Cyprus. He for an investigation to establish whether the 1962 coup had been the work of a foreign power.

Page 4

# pression cure

the successful use at Leeds University of a carbonate and amitriptyline to reduce frequency of depression, extensive clinical of the drugs are to be carried out on patients from recurrent bouts of depressive illness in Edinburgh, Sheffield, Southampton, Cardiff and Leeds.

Page 2

# British gold and currency reserves rise by \$61m

Britain's gold and foreign currency reserves rose in July for the first time in three months but the \$61m increase still leaves them lower than in any month this year apart from June. The pound again closed at a record low against the dollar. At \$2.1420, it was 55 pence down on the day and more than 3 cents below a week ago.

Page 15

# Streaker at Test match

A young streaker interrupted play in the second Test between England and Australia at Lord's yesterday when he ran onto the field and jumped over both sets of stumps. He was caught on the boundary Australia, with nine wickets standing, need 387 runs to win.

Page 8

More on parole: The Home Secretary said yesterday that new guidelines had been agreed that would allow more prisoners to be released on parole.

2

Eldestedford issues: The hottest National Eldestedford hears a banned band, a plea in English words, and about the burning topic of money.

2

Project threatened: The Family Planning Association's Crayven youth sex education project will close unless outside financial support is promised by the end of September. 3

Mr Ford: Japanese Prime Minister, in Washington, awaits President's return from the meeting with Marshal Tito in Yugoslavia. 4

Common Islands: New leader offers Canadian-style federal solution to stop feuding.

# Muzorewa visit to London for Rhodesia talks

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Abel Muzorewa, the president of the African National Council, has been invited to London this week for talks on the situation in Rhodesia. He is expected to see Mr David Ennals, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, who was recently in Salisbury for an exchange of views with Mr Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister.

No new British initiative in calling a Rhodesian constitutional conference is to be expected, but British ministers are anxious to keep in touch with the ANC.

According to reports from Lusaka, Bishop Muzorewa yesterday flew from there to Salisbury, Aug 4. Mr Enos Nakala, a member of the executive of the ANC, said today that the Rhodesian Government intended to ban the council to clear the way for constitutional talks with "other groups of Africans."

Mr Nakala claimed that the ban had been planned for last week but had been postponed because of the South African Government's reaction to the idea.

Recall of police, page 4

# Mr Stonehouse to renew bail application before judge

By Peter Hennessy

Mr John Stonehouse, Labour MP for Walsall, North, was refused bail for the fourth time after a 30-minute hearing before the Bow Street magistrate yesterday. He will make a fresh application to a High Court judge in chambers today.

Mr Stonehouse faces 21 charges of forgery, conspiracy and fraud involving £172,000. Mr Evelyn Russell, the magistrate, remanded him in custody until Monday. Mr Geoffrey Robertson, for Mr Stonehouse, said he would remain "in virtual house arrest" with his wife and daughter if bail was granted.

"I must consider the possibility of bail," Mr Russell said.

Mr Robertson said the charges against Mr Stonehouse did not rank in the "first division" of fraud like the Bloom, Savundra and Poulson cases. Of the total of £172,000 mentioned in the charges against him, £125,000 pertained to the insurance consequences of his disappearance last winter. If Mr Stonehouse had not decided to disappear there would be no charges against him, he said.

Mr Stonehouse would not have the facilities required for the "massive preparation" of his defence in Brixton prison. Mr Robertson said the case involved 380 sworn statements, 1,125 pages of evidence and about 18,000 transactions.

The conduct of Mr Stonehouse since his return from Australia did not suggest that he would abscond from a country with which he was reviving his ties. "His face is known by passport officers and ticket collectors. He has no money, no passport and a face that has launched a thousand Fleet Street headlines."

Mr Anthony Whitfield, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, asked that Mr Stonehouse should be remanded in custody until next Monday, when the prosecution would be ready to proceed with a commitment for trial under section one of the Criminal Justice Act, 1967. Mr Stonehouse, he continued, had requested a commitment under section two.

Mr Stonehouse's request is likely to delay progress of the case by several weeks. Under section two a substantial amount of evidence would have to be considered by the magistrate's court during the commitment hearing.

Parliamentary report, page 5

# Court Line creditors plan Westminster protest

Some of the 100,000 holiday-makers who lost money when Court Line failed last year plan to go to the Houses of Parliament tomorrow when the Commons debate the affair.

Mr Reginald La, chairman of the Court Line Action Group, which represents many of the creditors, said yesterday that he wanted as many members as possible to lobby MPs and hear the debate.

He said people were "fed up and frustrated" at the delay in getting compensation.

The debate follows criticism of Mr Wedgwood Benn, now Secretary of State for Energy, after two separate inquiries.

Sir Alan Marra, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman), and three government-appointed inspectors, criticized as misleading statements made by Mr Benn, then Secretary of State for Industry, just before the Court Line collapse.

Leading article, page 13

More questions for Mr Benn, page 15

# Man killed and 20 injured in bus crash

A man was killed and about 20 people were injured in a collision involving a bus and two cars in Rayleigh Road, Hutton, near Brentwood, Essex, yesterday.

The dead man, driver of one of the cars, was Mr Ronald Byott, aged about 40 of Meadow Road, Hull Bridge, near Rayleigh. The bus driver and many passengers were treated at Basildon Hospital for shock and minor injuries, and discharged. The bus was travelling from Wood Green to Southend.

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# HOME NEWS

## ew hope fferers recurre pression rap

John Young, a leading reporter, has written a book about the Regency terrace in Hove, East Sussex, which is a dilemma for the future. The terrace is a fine example of early 20th-century architecture, but it is in a state of disrepair. The council is faced with the choice of either spending a large sum of money to restore it or selling it off. The book, 'The Regency Terrace', is a detailed account of the history and current state of the terrace. It is a must-read for anyone interested in local history and architecture.

The Regency terrace at Hove which presents East Sussex County Council with a dilemma. The terrace is a fine example of early 20th-century architecture, but it is in a state of disrepair. The council is faced with the choice of either spending a large sum of money to restore it or selling it off. The book, 'The Regency Terrace', is a detailed account of the history and current state of the terrace. It is a must-read for anyone interested in local history and architecture.

## Publicans in cotland want licence reforms

Publicans in Scotland are demanding a new licensing system. The current system is outdated and does not take into account the needs of the public. They want a system that is more flexible and allows for more variety in the types of premises that can be licensed. The Scottish Government is currently considering the proposals and is expected to make a decision in the near future.

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## A-councillor is mandated on ruption charge

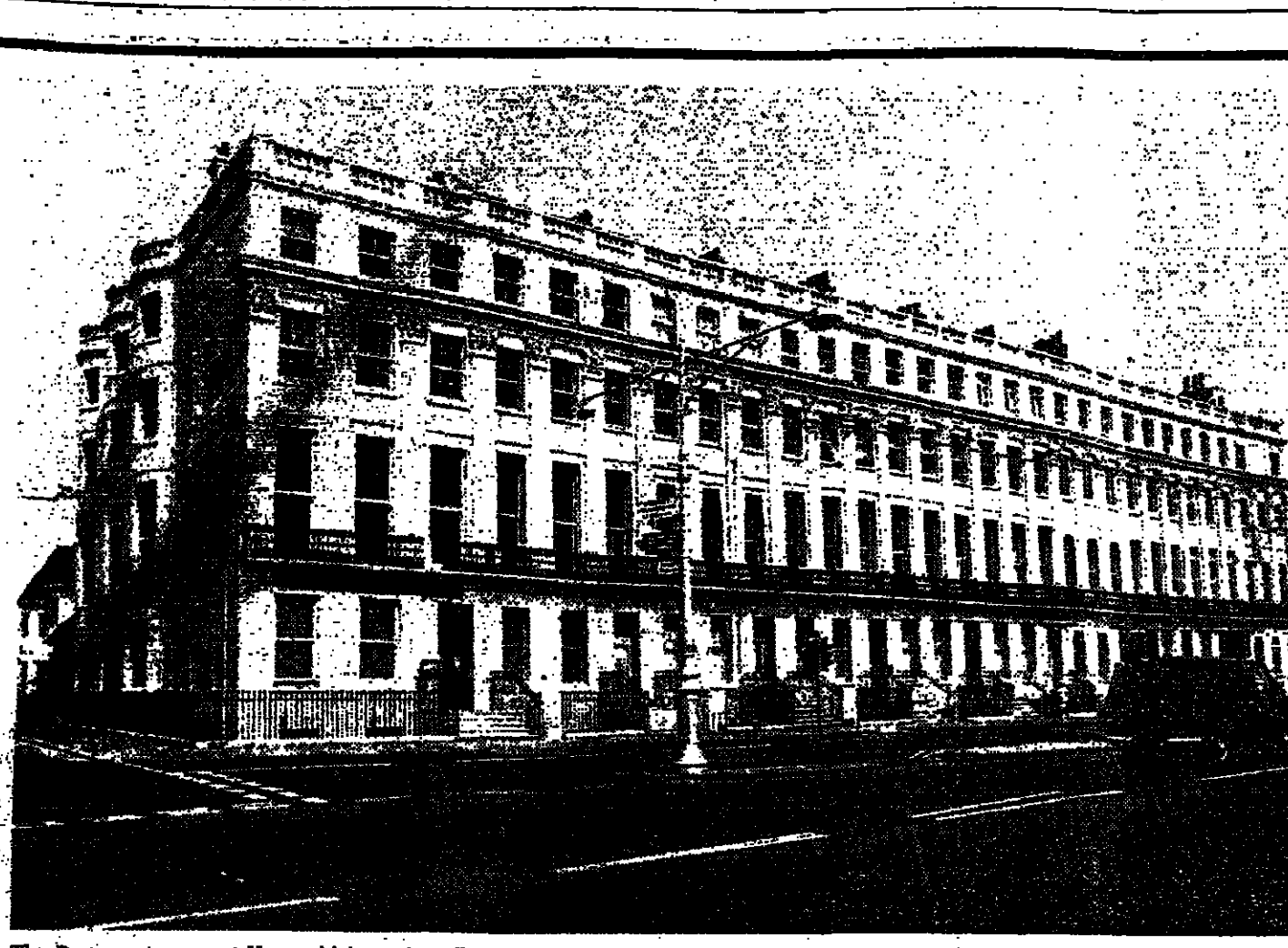
A councillor in North East Durham has been charged with corruption. The charge is based on allegations that the councillor has been involved in a series of transactions that are believed to be illegal. The council is currently investigating the allegations and has asked the councillor to provide evidence to clear his name. The councillor has denied the allegations and is fighting the charge in court.

## our rescued as up sinks

Four people were rescued from a sinking ship. The ship was carrying a large number of passengers and was in the process of sinking. The crew and passengers were in a state of panic, but the rescue team arrived in time to save them. The ship is now being towed to a safe location and the passengers are being treated for their injuries.

## oy to join 'roll of heroes'

A young boy has been named as a hero for his bravery. He was the first to jump into the water to help a drowning child. His actions saved the child's life and he has been praised for his courage. The boy is now being celebrated as a local hero and his name is being added to a 'roll of heroes'.



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## Sex education project may close

A sex education project in London may be closed. The project was set up to provide sex education to young people, but it has been found that it is not cost-effective. The council is considering whether to continue the project or to close it. The project has been praised for its work, but the council is concerned about the cost of running it.

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## £5 fine for having car numbers wrongly spaced

A man has been fined £5 for having his car numbers wrongly spaced. The car was stopped by the police and the driver was found to have spaced the numbers incorrectly. The police issued a fine for the offence. The driver has appealed the fine, but the court has upheld the decision.

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## Woman for trial on charge of taking a baby

A woman has been charged with taking a baby. The baby was found missing from a hospital and the woman is suspected of being involved. She is currently on trial for the charge. The woman has denied the charge and is fighting the case in court.

## Poliomyelitis case illustrates hazard

A case of poliomyelitis illustrates the hazard of the disease. The patient was a young child who had not been vaccinated. The disease is now rare, but it can be very serious. The case highlights the importance of vaccination and the need to ensure that everyone is protected.

The Government has to be prepared to grant an office development permit, which is far from certain, but the houses are also protected from a change of use by a private Act of Parliament. Legislation would be necessary, which the Government might not wish to be seen to support. Parallels are being drawn with the recent Eastbourne Marina Bill, which was "talked out" by a group of Labour MPs.

The Government has indicated that there would be a better chance of grants being made available if the council were to purchase the houses. But the council's own surveyors have estimated that apart from the purchase price, rehabilitation would cost at least £1,750,000 and the most it could hope to realize from their sale would be £1,500,000.

Mr Thorburn says something must be done soon, as at least one house is in imminent danger of collapse. "We are absolutely determined that we have got to keep them somehow," he says. The staff, who handle the preparation of meals in the airline's European division catering section, have been told by the management that there is no provision in their working agreement for a permanent night-shift supplement.

## Seaman fined £100 over boat's erratic voyage

A seaman has been fined £100 over his boat's erratic voyage. The boat was found to be in a state of disrepair and the seaman was found to be negligent. The court has issued a fine for the offence. The seaman has appealed the fine, but the court has upheld the decision.

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## Woman cleared of plot

A woman has been cleared of a plot to assassinate a man. The woman was accused of being part of a conspiracy, but the evidence has been found to be insufficient. She has been acquitted of the charges. The case has been a long and complex one, but the court has reached its verdict.

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## Airline food affected by dispute over pay

A dispute over pay has affected airline food. The staff who prepare the food for airlines are on strike, which has led to a shortage of food. The airlines are now having to find alternative ways to feed their passengers. The dispute is expected to continue for some time.

The staff, who handle the preparation of meals in the airline's European division catering section, have been told by the management that there is no provision in their working agreement for a permanent night-shift supplement. Passengers flying on British Airways European routes yesterday were told before they boarded their aircraft that the standard of catering on some flights was being affected.

## Call for talks on pit deaths rise

There is a call for talks on the rise in pit deaths. The number of deaths in the mining industry has increased significantly in recent years, and there is a demand for a serious investigation into the causes. The government is expected to respond to the call for talks.

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# WEST EUROPE

## Christian Democrats seek ways to face challenge of change

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Aug. 4. The Christian Democratic Party faces a vital week. The national executive meets on Wednesday to face the cold reality that already a third of the country's regional, provincial and municipal administrations are in left-wing hands.

The problem of regional and local government is the most immediate one facing the Government party after the big Communist electoral advances in June. It is not the only problem.

The Christian Democrats must look deeper into the meaning of the change wrought by the June elections. Until then there had been a pattern in Italian affairs, however asymmetrical.

The Christian Democrats ruled with a choice of allies varying from Liberals, on the conservative side, to Socialists. The opposition was provided by the Communists, who were not enough for the governing party, could not be looked on as an alternative.

That supposition is no longer true for a third of the country, at least up to the level of regional administrations, and there are probably still shocks

to come for the Christian Democrats. Signor Benigno Zaccagnini, the new Christian Democratic Party secretary, has summoned the leaders of the party in Lombardy to Rome tomorrow to report to him on what is happening, including regional affairs.

The Christian Democrats are still in no condition to face the challenge of change. At the same time it is doubtful whether the Communists are fully ready to meet the challenges which have come their way. They are accepting extraordinary responsibilities. They appear willing to make an act of presence even where they do not have the full reality of power.

The obvious danger of this attitude is not simply that even they, with their good record hitherto of local government, will prove insufficient to meet regional and municipal problems, but that an essentially one-party system will now be replaced by a multi-party system with even less possibility than before of expressing a dialogue between Government and Opposition.

The essential hope is that the present period of shock will lead to a genuine reappraisal of all sides.

## Plea to suspend trial of Basques on death charges

From Our Correspondent, Madrid, Aug. 4. The Association of University Graduates of Catalonia and the Balearic Islands has asked the Government to suspend a court martial of two Basques on charges in connexion with the death of a policeman, a report said in Madrid today.

The association released in Barcelona the text of its petition to Señor Arias Navarro, the Prime Minister, to suspend the pending military trial of José Antonio Garmendia Artola and Angel Otegui Achevarria. Both face possible death sentences.

The association quoted medical evidence of Señor Garmendia Artola's mental and physical state, the Minister of Justice, to reiterate his organization's plea for clemency.

## Kidnappers of lawyer demand £10m

Palermo, Aug. 4.—Kidnappers were reported today to have demanded a £10m ransom for the release of a lawyer, who was abducted by 10 armed men on July 18, at Salemi, western Sicily. It is the highest ransom ever recorded in Italy.

Another ransom of 2,000m lire has been demanded by the kidnappers of Professor Nicola Campisi, aged 43, the son of a wealthy Sicilian landowner. Professor Campisi, a lecturer in criminology at Palermo University, was kidnapped on July 1.

The kidnappers of both men are believed to be members of the same organization.

## Five held, 11 sought in fake art inquiry

Milan, Aug. 4.—Five people have been arrested and 11 more are being sought in an investigation by the Milan police into an international ring of art forgers which sold hundreds of fake paintings in Italy and abroad.

The investigation began last month after a man had been found with a large collection of fake paintings. The police are now looking for the other members of the ring.

The police estimated that the ring, operating in Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland and the United States, had a revenue of about \$32m (£14m) over the past three years.

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The investigation began last month after a man had been found with a large collection of fake paintings. The police are now looking for the other members of the ring.

The police estimated that the ring, operating in Italy, France, Germany, Switzerland and the United States, had a revenue of about \$32m (£14m) over the past three years.



Fanfani wedding: Signora Maria Pia Tavazzani, aged 50, who has written and illustrated several books on art, was married to Senator Amintore Fanfani, aged 67, the former Prime Minister and former leader of the Christian Democratic Party, in a private religious ceremony in Rome on Sunday. She was previously married to a Milan industrialist, who died in 1971, and has a son who is married to Princess Vittoria Colonna. Senator Fanfani, a widower since 1968, has even children: he met his new wife in 1973 when he wrote the preface to one of her books.

## Sedition charges against Spanish officers

Madrid, Aug. 4.—Five of nine Spanish officers arrested last week have been charged with sedition. They face prison sentences ranging from six months to six years.

The nine officers were said to belong to an illegal "Democratic Military Union", a study group on Spanish current affairs. Police were reported to have seized a list of 200 to 300 members of the union in the home of one of the officers.

The Spanish military code forbids large gatherings among military men unless they have permission from their commanding officer. There were reports that members of the banned union had made contact with left-wing Portuguese officers.—Agence France-Presse.

## Britons detained in drive against drug smuggling

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris, Aug. 4. Two Britons, suspected of carrying drugs, were detained by customs officials in a big search operation carried out by the Massilia, the car ferry boat which regularly plies between Casablanca and Marseilles, docked in the French port this morning.

More than 60 customs officers took part, searching a total of 268 vehicles in the operation lasting more than four hours. Police afterwards named the Britons as Michael Carroll, aged 48, a civil engineer from Kidderminster, Worcestershire, and his brother Bryan, aged 47, described as a sailor.

The search, one of the biggest this season in the Marseilles drive against drug smuggling, was justified in terms of the "increasing ingenuity" shown by traffickers.

Customs officials explained in a note handed to passengers that sampling searches had uncovered a total of 1,695 kilograms of drugs in Marseilles alone during the past year.

The officials apologized for the inconvenience and declared: "Our goal is to stop the traffickers, for drugs threaten the young people of all countries."

Customs men said after the search that they had received sympathetic cooperation from the majority of passengers who had come from Casablanca.

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# The risk to the Tories if they fail to force an end to the 'phoney war' on inflation

Britain now faces the most serious and intractable of the unending series of post-war economic convulsions. Government policies therefore require a relentless scrutiny. Failure at this juncture, whether in diagnosis or proposed remedy, will be a fearful nemesis. The Conservative Party will share in that nemesis unless it makes clear its decisive objections to the White Paper and the accompanying legislation.

The present inflationary crisis needs no underlining; but the interaction of cause and consequence remains confusing. The size and financing of the budget deficit lies at the heart of the debate. The present figure of £9,000 million is unprecedented, but the Chancellor has been remarkably successful in borrowing to meet this growing amount. A consequence has been the sharp fall over the past year in the rate of monetary inflation, possibly now running at around 9 per cent.

Two further consequences flow from such borrowing. First, the Treasury's cash position is improved. In the first instance, given the time lag between monetary inflation and its effect

upon wages and prices, it is reasonably evident that the rate of price and income increases were destined to fall in the second half of this year. This inevitable fall will now, erroneously, be ascribed to the incomes policy.

Secondly, the tremendous growth in government spending has balanced the whole pattern of public finance precariously upon a continued ability to borrow from the domestic public. Should these investors switch their funds, the British Government could not speedily adjust its expenditure. The Treasury would then be hurried into printing on such a massive scale that monetary inflation and its eventual impact upon incomes and prices would produce Latin American if not Weimar consequences.

How secure are these sources of borrowing? The signs are ominous. Mr Gerald Parsky, Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, calculates the oil producing countries surplus to be 25 per cent less than in 1974. The Quarterly Bulletin of the Bank of England estimates the cash surplus of oil exporters available for overseas invest-

ment halved between the last quarter of 1974 and the first quarter of 1975. Despite rising unemployment the Chancellor must reduce the budget deficit. Otherwise there is the real risk of a hyper-inflationary crash in a few years' time.

The overt critical reaction of the mainstream Conservative Party to the White Paper has been generously muted, although there is deep hostility to many of the proposals. Tories must inquire how will these measures affect the budget deficit. The only specific commitment is to increase public spending on housing and food subsidies. These are hardly the weapons for an attack on inflation; after all, it is supposed to be a war and not a dormitory pillow fight. There are, of course, aspirations that the Treasury will apply cash limit controls to current public expenditure including salaries and wages. This could prove a major factor in curbing spending, and the Opposition are wise to welcome any attempt to simulate market disciplines in public sector wages. Even so, the plaudits should be reserved for the achievement rather than the avowal.

The reversion to a statutory incomes policy is depressing but predictable. The fashionable jargon argues that this policy adjusts expectations so that they can accommodate the fall in wage inflation implicit in recent monetary movements. There are two immediate objections. The stipulated legal means employed are an outrage. They will provide a fertile ground for the 56 flat rate formula attempts to distribute incomes in a quasi-equalitarian fashion. This will intensify the difficulties of differentials already exacerbated by the higher tax rates that now impinge upon salaries. It is also fairly certain that the incomes policy formula has overestimated the likely fall in inflation, and within months the air will be thick with accusations of breaches and evasions and a demand for more stringent statute.

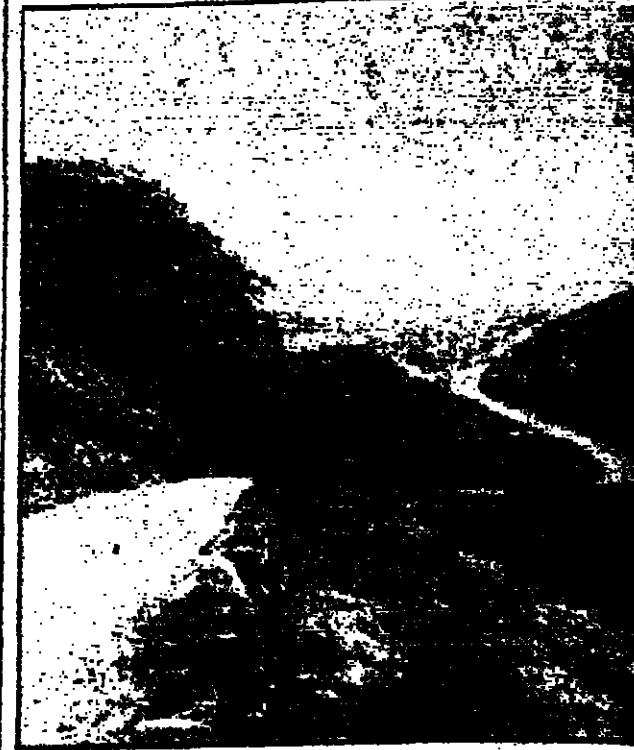
Quite soon it will be possible to assess these latest economic measures rather more dispassionately. The euphoria and drama will diminish. One faction of the Tory Party has offered unequivocal support for the White Paper incomes policy.

Such support is misguided. It is neither perverse nor partisan to insist that the role of level Opposition is to object to the rigidity and inequities of statutory powers over incomes, to reject the increase in housing and food subsidies, and to deplore the protracted use of price controls. The monetary factors causing inflation have somewhat abated, and the consequences for prices, incomes and unemployment will become increasingly apparent. The tragedy is that the July measures have not consolidated that abatement with specific and convincing measures to control public spending.

The Chancellor, of course, deserves the generous benefit of massive doubt concerning his promise to apply cash limit controls. Even so, the attack upon inflation has not been pressed. We have witnessed a series of phantom strategies for the symptoms rather than the cause. The times are too serious for phoney war.

John Biffen

The author is Conservative MP for Ouseworth.  
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The Hobden Valley in West Yorkshire: a landscape worth to preserve.

## How people have been made to care about their surroundings

The "amenity lobby" is now recognized by central and local government, industry and commerce, as a force for good in the land. Civic societies, amenity societies, environmental groups, national and local, demand notice and respect, if for no other reason than their potential nuisance value.

In reality the movement is nothing as unpolitical as a lobby. It includes the solid traditional preservers, like the long-established and semi-establishment Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (founded by William Morris in 1877), the Georgian Group, the Victorian Society, and the Councils for the Protection of both Rural England and Rural Wales. It also includes a new wave of "whole earthers", notably the Conservation Society, founded in 1966 by a Scots physicist, Mr Douglas MacKinnon, as a result of reaction to a letter to *The Observer* about population growth, and now with some 6,000 members in 60 branches—and Friends of the Earth, a limited company fighting specific campaigns, such as that over non-returnable bottles in 1970-71 against Schweppes, and against copper mining in Snowdonia a year or so later.

Friends of the Earth claims about 110 local groups and some 10,000 people "in touch". Members tend to talk about "the ecosphere", but their field of interest is comparable to the Conservation Society's—population, resources, environment.

Beside these main-streamers is a wide range of national societies devoted to more specific aims: organizations for the preservation of ancient monuments, birds, canals, friendly churches, green belts, rights of way, steel engines and village ponds; for the promotion of archaeology, tree planting, light railways, public transport and road safety; and opposed to airports, motorways, Concorde and much else.

During the past 10 years, however, the really striking growth has been in local societies and local groups of national bodies. The Civic Trust, which advises and helps local amenity societies without, in general, being committed to their policies and actions, keeps a register of bodies linked to it. In 1967 there were about 600; now 1,200 are registered.

This growth has resulted from greater environmental awareness, but what probably counted for much more was Mr Duncan's 1967 Civic Amenities Act and all that followed from it. That Act introduced the concept of the conservation area, which was the wedge in the official door.

There are now 3,200 conservation areas far more than the authors of the Bill expected, and the powers that go with them have been extended until today no building in a conservation area can be demolished or substantially altered without planning permission and prior advertisement of the proposed

## Collectors' time in the market

The art market has been through a crisis this year, but it has emerged with its colours still flying. While the auction rooms announced yesterday the first annual auction in turn over since the beginning of the 70s, they were falling over themselves to point out that the market was already well on its way to recovery. They were obviously in a state of optimism, the announcement of their poor figures might sabotage the new-found confidence of the market.

The troubles began last summer with falling prices and absence of buyers. The autumn proved a period of struggle for auctioneers. Items accepted for sale in the good old days at optimistic valuations were consistently failing to sell, and this, in turn, was discouraging the owners of fine pictures or objects from consigning them for sale. By Christmas the volume of goods coming into Sotheby's and Christie's for sale was roughly 25 per cent down on the previous year.

With the new year things began to look up. The expectations of vendors had been persuaded down into line with prevailing prices, and things were selling again. And in some fields prices were really beginning to climb out of the doldrums. The major spring sales produced few surprises but showed a healthy trend. And the summer sales have continued this pattern.

Recent sales have been characterized by much more selective buying. Gone are the days when everything sells because all art is an "investment"—and the dealers are short of stock. There is now strong competition for the best and unpredictable competition for the second best.

In fact, it is more like a market dominated by collectors as opposed to a market dominated by investors. Collectors have always been prepared to pull out the stops when a really superb item comes on the market. Rarely or superb quality stimulates the acquisitive instinct. Otherwise the scale of bidding is determined by who has a gap in his collection.

It is also much more like the old days to see every different modern picture on the market moving in a pattern different from the others. One cannot generalize any longer; the "art market" is neither buoyant nor in recession. The value of impressionist and modern pictures will seem to be falling (turnover has roughly halved at both Sotheby's and Christie's); glass is going up; Chinese porcelain has steadied at a new level after its collapse. European porcelain and furniture are buoyant, while anything Persian is going through the roof.

The accompanying table summarizes what has happened

to turnover at the four major auction houses. The fall at Sotheby's and Christie's is about 20 per cent. Sotheby's figures have been helped by the acquisition of Mak van Waay in Amsterdam, an old established sale room which added roughly 600 to the foreign sales total this year. It is also notable that Sotheby's Belgravia, specializing in Victorian, has done better than Bond Street.

But the most notable exception to the general trend has been that of Phillips. It has actually increased its turnover while even its closest competitor, Bonhams, showed an 11 per cent fall. The secret of its success has been basically twofold. On one hand it offers a speedy service; items are generally sold within the month. With many firms and private individuals in severe financial difficulties, this has proved particularly important this year and attracted a good deal of extra business.

At the same time Phillips has been making a determined effort to attract more high quality, and thus high unit value, items for sale.

The most dramatic feature of the year in the auction rooms has been the impact of Middle East buying. On the one hand it has affected the value of art works which began their life in the Middle East: carpets, Persian miniatures, Islamic pottery and glass etc. On the other it has given tremendous strength to the market in nineteenth century European art and objects. This is a matter of the traditional nouveau-riche taste for the ornate; and it extends to narrative pictures and landscapes, so easy to understand. They are perennial favourites, it used to be known as Golden Green taste, now as Arab taste. Whoever has money tends to spend it in this way.

The other major development of the season has been the commission rate battle. When Sotheby's and Christie's start up again in the autumn they will be charging both vendors and buyers a commission, 10 per cent apiece making a total of 20 per cent. They have been forced into this by the financial pressures of falling turnover. Phillips, on the other hand, has announced a reduction in commission to 10 per cent rate charged only to vendors. It remains to be seen whether this brave gamble enables the firm to build further upon the success of the past year.

Sale room turnover	1974/75	1973/74
Sotheby's—Overall	75	93.3
of which		
London Bond St	34.3	44.9
London Belgravia	3.5	4.0
New York	21.5	27.9
London Christie's	3.5	4.8
New York	10.8	9.0
Christie's—Overall	38.7	46.3
of which		
London	26.7	38.3
Foreign	10.7	10.4
Bonhams	4.1	4.7

Geraldine Norman  
Sale Room Correspondent



## Why the rifles are pointing down in Ulster

Northern Ireland is once more approaching the anniversary of that historic day in 1969 when troops were first ordered to the streets of Londonderry to act as a kind of breakwater against the incoming tide of violence. It is not an anniversary to cause much rejoicing anywhere. By the end of last month 238 British soldiers, 47 members of the Ulster Defence Regiment, 65 policemen and 914 civilians had lost their lives in the Six Counties, and 12,763 people from all groups, had been injured, many of them irreparably.

Ulstermen view with no great optimism the autumn struggle of the Convention at Stormont to arrive at a constitutional formula which might satisfy Westminster and, more important, themselves. The horrific, pointless destruction of the Miami Showband indicated the capacity for bloodletting that exists in a province devoid of convincing political leadership and over-endowed with under-employed youth. The Yorkshiresmen of the 1st Battalion of the Prince of Wales' Own Regiment who made that first sortie on to the streets on August 14, 1969, and who now by strange, but not all that strange, coincidence are once again sent to the streets, might reflect as they dodge the stones on the Creggan estate that little has changed.

Yet for all the uncertainty built into the present ceasefire, the decision to withdraw IRA, to which Ulster clings like a drowning man, the security forces can reflect upon this sixth anniversary with more satisfaction than they have during any of the previous five. The six soldiers who have been killed in the first seven months of this year must be set against the 28 who died

last year, the 58 in 1973 and the 103 in the peak year of 1972. Ever since Operation Motorman, the turning point on July 31, 1972, when troops took over the "no-go" areas of Belfast and Londonderry, the tide has been slowly receding.

This may sometimes seem hard to believe. In the area around Newry and South Armagh, for instance, the ceasefire has been broken by 34 serious incidents—the work of IRA Action Service Units, most of them operating from over the border and most manned by terrorists of great experience and considerable skill.

However, the number of troops is now about 14,000, the lowest total since the spring of 1972, and while no major unit has been withdrawn since last autumn, the odd helicopter pilot or driver still filters back to the British mainland, the need for him temporarily over. Away from South Armagh, patrols are slightly less frequent than before the ceasefire, giving soldiers longer breaks in which to sleep or relax. In addition soldiers on foot have lowered the profile, to use that graphic military phrase. Rifles tend to point downwards not up, mobile units travel by Land-Rover rather than armoured vehicle, and while the rear man on a foot patrol is still a live target, soldiers no longer feel the necessity to dodge covertly from doorway to doorway, covering each other as they cross the streets. Moreover, units face Ulster tours of duty no more often than once a month, which is more tolerable for families than the years when tours in Belfast came round in less than one year.

The big question is how long

the present ceasefire can be made to last and how prepared the security forces might be to counter any serious breach of it. The Army believes that the Provisionals called for an end to their campaign because they were suffering heavy losses in the war of attrition being conducted by the Army and the police, and because they had forfeited the support of the Catholic population which had grown tired of the fighting.

But the ending of internment brings its own problems. About one in three, or possibly more, of the released detainees are thought to return to the organizations from whence they came. As the Government pursues its policy of gradually ending internment in phase with the improving security situation, the security forces must soon contemplate the release of the more dangerous, experienced terrorists they previously struggled to put away.

Already Army intelligence indicates that as the senior leadership emerges, they are taking back their old positions in their organizations, downgrading the young less experienced members who had been "promoted" during their absence. During the ceasefire the Provisionals have carried on reorganizing their structure and training their members. (Occasional shots in the night have indicated the presence of nearby training sessions in Belfast and Londonderry). So far, however, the Provisionals have concentrated their strength upon socio-political activities, backing up the political wing of Sinn Féin, and "policing" their own areas. In Londonderry one of their leaders recently directed an arbitrary justice on the Creggan. Finding the miscreant in a traffic accident. And in Strabane a recent

flurry of "kneecappings" have suggested a tightening of "discipline" in the ranks.

Senior Army officers accept the political arguments for ending detention without trial. The system, introduced more to placate lawless in Stormont than at the behest of the security forces, has always been of doubtful net value, and the Army and the police charged so far this year with tortuous offences at making good progress through the more acceptable procedures of justice. But if the Convention fails to find a political solution, a breakdown of the ceasefire early next year could find the Provisionals in a stronger position than they were before the ceasefire. In this case all would depend on the willingness or unwillingness of the people to allow them to operate as before.

The uncertainty is not helped by the continuing undermining of the RUC. At the end of June, with 4,651 men and women, it was still 1,859 below its establishment strength. In addition the force continues to be unacceptable to the "hard" areas of Ulster, however anxious individuals may be to return to the rule of law.

But for all this uncertainty, Northern Ireland will see its sixth anniversary of Army involvement in a rather relaxed mood than it witnessed the fifth, or the fourth or the third. Shopkeepers in Londonderry are even agitating for a lifting of the Army's check-points around the city centre. Their confidence is thought to be premature, but the fact that they have it is encouraging.

Henry Stanhope  
Defence Correspondent

## The Times Diary

### British ears are the world's finest

In a time when we are experiencing knock after knock to our self-esteem, it is good to know that British ears are the best in the world. I have this on the authority of Michio Kushi from Boston, Massachusetts, a teacher of oriental medicine and macrobiotic principles.

Kushi was here in June, when he gave a series of lectures in London. Sadly, I missed them, but I have been able to catch up through a long report in the latest issue of *Seed*, the journal of organic living.

A good ear, according to Kushi, begins at eye level and ends level with the mouth. A very long ear indicates "high mentality and strong spirituality". Kushi's ears are superior in this respect to those in the United States, which tend to be stunted and malformed.

A wide ear, he continued, denotes a strong constitution. People in positions of leadership (especially paranoid ones) should have flat ears, so they

can hear what is happening around them. The lobes develop from minerals, the top of the ear from protein and the middle from carbohydrates, he claims. So if you have small lobes you are not getting enough minerals. Kushi ranged over other parts of the body, and had some surprising things to say about mouths. Fleshy, sexually enticing lips, he said, denote intestines swollen by chronic constipation. Thin lips should ideally be the same width, he said. The upper lip reflects the state of the lower intestines.

### Wellies

Alan Hamilton reports further from the International Scout Jamboree at Lillehammer in Norway:

After the 24-hour mountain hike and the worldwide radio and television link-up, one of the highlights of Nordjamb 75 must be the international wellie sport has not yet received recognition from the International

Olympic Committee, it is growing in popularity. The sport arrived in Britain from Australia last year, and at least 200 events are being held in Britain during 1975. The Nordjamb contest is being sponsored by the Merseyside contingent, who arrived at Lillehammer equipped with a supply of regulations and copies of the rules printed in nine languages.

The competition wellie is a right-foot men's size eight. The technique is to wrap the floppy part round the foot of the boot, so that it becomes a tight and compact missile. The unwinding of the leg during flight is said to determine the trajectory.

But jamborees are not all wellies, wireless and walks. The basic necessities of life, like creating a shelter and making a large part of the time. Scouts are supposed to be ingenious and self-reliant.

Each scout is issued with 10 metres of wooden poles, and a decision has to be made whether to use them for an ornate flagpole and gateway or a suite of comfortable dining furniture. One British troop had pooled their timber to make a highly ornate washstand which doubled as a kitchen table, leaving them only a single thin spar on which to sit at meals.

Next door another troop had

been even more ingenious. Their dining table was a heap of stones covered with earth, with a trench dug round it in which to dip their legs. But you should have seen their flagpole and their kitchen range.

There appeared to be general satisfaction with the food—each troop cooks its own from stores provided—but there were mutterings from the British contingent that the tea, which comes in Norwegian-made tea bags.

Before I left I talked with Keith Kushi from the World Scout Bureau in Geneva, who told me that, with 14 million members, scouting is the largest voluntary youth organization in the world. Unless a national scout movement is seen to be voluntary and free from state interference, it will not be recognized by the Bureau.

For this reason the Zaire scouts are about to be expelled at the forthcoming world scout conference in Copenhagen, because word has reached Geneva that President Mobutu is trying to turn them into a national youth movement. Scouting has even penetrated the Iron Curtain, and the organization in Poland has been on the verge of recognition several times. But there is still some difficulty about getting the "duty to God" allowed by the government. The Spanish association might be recognized soon. General

Franco, like Hitler, banned scouting in the thirties, but it is now permitted again. All being well, Spain will be present at the 1975 jamboree which, after the great valleys and champagne air of Norway, is to be held in the dusty heat of Iran. At least it should not be difficult to get a fire going.

### Lucky day

Two strokes of good fortune coincided in south-east London yesterday. Robin Young braved the traffic to witness both, and reports:

Aboard the good ship *Curry Sark*, berthed on iron supports in a Greenwich dry dock, a small party awaited the six millionth visitor. The captain, David Reid, noted down a few ticket numbers as the scheduled hour of 2.30 approached. We have to seed the draw a little", said one of the clipper's management committee, but we usually get it within 300 or so of the millionth visitor."

At 2.35 Vice Admiral Sir Patrick Bayly spotted a model family coming up the gangplank alone during a lull in the turnstile business. He snarled stepped forward, congratulated them and conveyed them to the poop deck for presentations—a large bottle of whisky for father, tobacco, chips and booklets for mother and a construction set



"Apparently it's the home of a well-known gossip columnist."

for a model of the ship for the daughter. The Fawcett family coming the 3,000th family to their Thameshead development on what used to be Erith Marshes. This happy event was a year late, but Stephen Crowley, a London Transport worker who had been living with his wife and six sons in

a two-roomed flat in Hackney, was glad anyway to see that they, too, had taken a hand in determining whom Lady Luck should favour. "We do perhaps 20 lettings in a day, so there would be several families who might qualify. We look for one which is photogenic and who are not liable to clam up when asked questions."

Stephen Crowley did them proud. He spoke volubly in praise of the GLC and of his sons wore bow ties for the occasion.

### Butts

An MP who invited a chain-smoking guest to strawberries and cream on the House of Commons terrace asked one of the waitresses for an ashtray. She said they did not supply ashtrays, and suggested that dog-dogs be put in the sauce.

There must be something more sinister than meets the eye behind this policy of calculated degradation for smokers, because when my reporter queried it with John Smilie, the House's catering manager, the reaction was unexpectedly sharp. "I am sick and tired of these ridiculous questions," he said. "It is about the members of the public came to their senses and realized there is no shortage of ash-

trays in the House of Commons. In fact we have ashtrays where we know what to do with."

Yet the MP and his searched the terrace for ashtrays and found none. dead, their examination revealed piles of cigar butts and pipe ash under of the chairs.

"I refuse to answer question whether ashtrays provided on the terrace," Smilie angrily. "I am so with being bothered about trays and 'ice cubes'."

What is the truth? Have elected representatives of the nation's taxpayers in the House of Commons been using ice cubes as souvenirs? I have been using ice cubes as souvenirs, he said. "I cannot say."

The situation is aggravated John Wallace says he has gardener on BBC Radio advising listeners how to spruce-up their garden "stump".





## MR FORD GOES EAST

President Ford's visit to five European countries has done something to counter one of the most frequent and damaging criticisms of his foreign policy, which is that it ignores the concerns of the smaller countries, particularly in east and west Europe. Dr Kissinger has taken few pains to hide his belief that the only thing that really matters is the relationship between the super powers. He was impatient with western Europe and initially contemptuous of the negotiations leading up to the Helsinki conference, which he felt were cluttering the stage with irrelevant demands by minor countries. It has been said of him often enough that he gets on better with Mr Brezhnev than with his allies.

Dr Kissinger is naturally right that the survival of much or all of the world depends on the relationships among the nuclear powers. If their relations are not structured by restraint and mutual understanding nothing much else matters. To this extent he was right to give priority to them and he deserves credit for what he has done to make the world a safer place by achieving a new level of understanding with the Russians. Nevertheless, it is a limited view of the world that allows so few players on the stage. While most of the smaller powers welcomed détente in the hope that it would bring them not only more security but more freedom, some of them began to fear that a condominium of the super powers could turn out to be as oppressive as the confrontations of the cold war.

## WHOSE WORD 100,000 RELIED ON

Tomorrow, the Commons is to debate the two official reports which concluded that the Government cannot absolve itself from responsibility for misleading the public about the ability of the inflated Court Line group to meet its commitments. The Government will answer criticisms levelled by Sir Alan Marre, the Parliamentary Commissioner (the Ombudsman) and three Department of Industry-appointed inspectors. In particular, ministers reject their view that statements made by Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn on June 26 and July 1, 1974, went further than justified in reassuring the public about the continuation of the travel company's operations for the rest of the summer.

Given the complexities of the Court Line affair, it is necessary to remind MPs and others of some raw facts. About 100,000 Court Line holidaymakers lost their summer holiday bookings, some 50,000 were temporarily stranded abroad, and about 65,000 people lost deposits for winter holidays.

It is beyond argument that the management of Court Line must bear the main responsibility, yet the Government must answer for its own actions. By not taking the obvious course of admitting honestly made errors of judgment and apologising appropriately, the Government is now required to show explicitly why the findings of two independent reports should be disregarded.

The decision to ask inspectors to widen a company inquiry to

Dr Kissinger reinforced these fears by his reluctance to recognize that real political power could be generated by the demand for human rights not only on behalf of Soviet Jews but on behalf of more human contact between east and west Europe, which is what the Helsinki conference was mainly about. He tried to answer his critics in his speech in Minneapolis on July 15, when he said that the search for security had a moral purpose, which was to safeguard the values of "our free society". But he still insisted that "power remains the ultimate arbiter" and spoke of pursuing humanitarian purposes "where we have the latitude".

President Ford seems anxious to go further. In his speech in Helsinki he not only reaffirmed his country's vital interest in Europe's future but reversed the order of the negotiated texts, putting human rights before sovereign equality and the inviolability of frontiers. He spoke of the "deep devotion of the American people and their government to human rights and fundamental freedoms" and cut across ideological boundaries with references to the rebirth of Europe's historical identity and the need for progress "throughout Europe". His speech must have been at least partly written by Dr Kissinger, but its accent was more American.

The President's travels reinforced the point. In Bonn he was visiting the country most central to the American commitment to western Europe. In

Poland he was not only saluting ethnic groups back home but acknowledging Poland's special interest in détente as a country outwardly totally loyal to Moscow but inwardly freer in its thoughts and aspirations. In Romania he found almost the opposite—a country which combines a courageously independent foreign policy with very tight control at home. Yugoslavia is different again, non-aligned in its foreign policy, socialist in its ideology, but unique and relatively free in the way it runs its internal affairs.

None of these countries necessarily provides a model for future developments. They all have their different histories and different problems. They do, however, reflect the diversity which still exists in Europe and which could be developed in the right circumstances without endangering anyone's security in east or west. This is the thought which lies behind the belief that détente is more likely than confrontation to create conditions for democratic evolution.

The President's itinerary has reinforced this point and thereby given his détente policy the European dimension which has been somewhat lacking until now. In Belgrade it has also provided the United States with the opportunity to demonstrate its interest in the continuing independence of Yugoslavia when President Tito is no longer there to defend it. The transfer of power in Yugoslavia, and the Soviet Union's reaction to it, will be as much a test of détente as the situation in Portugal.

was unable to consider fourteen documents of a Cabinet Committee dealing with Court Line.

The withholding of Cabinet papers is not a critical issue, given statutes and precedent, even if secrecy enables the Prime Minister's role in handling Court Line to remain obscure. Ministers must be ready to accept an individual departmental responsibility; to his credit, Mr Benn claimed in evidence before the inspectors sole responsibility for what he said to the Commons on June 26 to maintain public confidence in Court Line. Whether he will act accordingly remains to be seen.

The Government clearly feels that Mr Benn cannot take personal responsibility for what was a collective decision to give reassurance about Court Line's future. The responsibility is surely both personal and collective. The facts are that, on June 26, 1974, the original Commons statement, approved by a Cabinet committee, was not made. There was a new wording apparently expressing Government confidence that holiday interests would be stabilized by a State take-over of Court Shipbuilders. The actual wording of this statement was circulated and in a minor way amended. Everyone who subsequently paid out money to Court Line in the belief that their travel booking were safe deserves a convincing Government answer when it says two independent inquiries were wrong in concluding holiday-makers were misled.

even from protected historic wreck sites which are being archaeologically examined under licence, approved by the Historic Wrecks Committee of the DTI under the chairmanship of Lord Runciman. I understand that this is to determine if import duty is payable. Apart from the fact that the training of local customs officers does not include the identification of antiquities, this adds not only a further form-filling burden as the tax payers' expense, for duty is not payable on antiquities coming ashore, but it seriously interferes with the tenuous and mostly unsupported archaeological work which many diving groups are trying to achieve.

Mr Green is well placed to judge the British scandal, for the government of Western Australia has established probably the most advanced conditions for the development of nautical archaeology in the world.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER MARSDEN,  
21 Meadow Lane,  
Lidfield,  
Surrey.

## Import controls

From Mr E. Ira Brown  
Sir, The British Importers Confederation is in full agreement with your editorial "Import Controls are a Dangerous Weapon" (July 30).

If controls have to be introduced they should be of a fiscal nature, for a very limited period, and as part of a package deal to help fight inflation.

To continue controls for any length of time, or to introduce selective quota controls, must inevitably affect our exports adversely. Controls blunt the efficiency of our manufacturing industries by reducing competition and by removing the need to keep prices down. The result is loss of export markets and increasing unemployment throughout our predominantly export industries.

Britain is a trading nation and it can only prosper by expanding both its exports and import trades. Yours faithfully,  
E. IRA BROWN, Secretary,  
British Importers Confederation,  
69 Cannon Street, EC4,  
July 30.

## Appeals to the Privy Council

From Mr P. V. Baker, QC

Sir, It is very understandable that those acting for clients condemned to death should feel affronted at the cursory dismissal of an appeal, but the criticism recently levelled (Letters, July 29 and 30) at the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council appears to be based on a misconception of the role of a final appellate court from a number of sovereign territories. Such a body can be expected to contribute to the development and harmonization of the legal principles which are the common heritage of the Commonwealth, but it cannot correct each and every error, however serious its consequences, in the trial court, far less can it be expected to concern itself with "policy considerations and moral issues". These are matters which each territory must handle for itself.

Yours faithfully,  
P. V. BAKER, Editor,  
The Law Quarterly Review,  
9 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2,  
July 31.

## NHS and Bank Holidays

From Sir Francis Avery Jones

Sir, Should NHS hospitals have extra public holidays? An Alice in Wonderland decision by the General Whitley Council last year suggested that the number of paid statutory and public holidays for the NHS should be increased from seven to nine each year. After further discussions the two additional holiday days have been allocated to extend two Bank Holidays; either the Friday before or the day after may be nominated, but these cannot be alternated.

Hospital administrators and consultants played no part in the original discussions and are most unhappy with these arrangements. They know only too well that hospitals should make the fullest possible use of their limited and already overstretched resources. The loss of a weekly consultant-outpatient clinic or a whole day's operating list causes additional unnecessary delay for a number of patients—a delay which can be made up only by overloading subsequent weeks' lists. What Christmas and Easter time mean that some consultants may lose four such weekly sessions a year.

Do the public really expect to find their local hospitals taking a holiday while most other people are at work? Hospital staff are exposed to appreciable health hazards and need liberal holidays, which are indeed already available for nurses, doctors and administrators, but ancillary staff will need more leave. Why cannot this be achieved by adding the extra days to their annual holiday entitlement, and so allowing the professional staff to get on with their normal duties? No, Sir, our NHS hospitals do not need additional "public" holidays.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANCIS AVERY JONES,  
Chairman of the Medical Committee,  
St Mark's Hospital,  
City Road, EC1,  
July 25.

## Badgers and TB

From Mr Robert Saunders

Sir, Miss Yvonne Anderson's letter (August 2) states that there is still a section of the public who, probably due to a lack of a full understanding of the position, are opposed to the Ministry of Agriculture gassing badgers infected with tuberculosis.

I know of one farm where over the last few years more than 650 cattle have been slaughtered by the Ministry because they were reactors to the TB test or were dangerous contacts. Rightly, no one objects to this slaughter of animals in an attempt to eradicate TB from our animals.

This policy has failed in only a few areas, such as the farm mentioned above, where it has been shown that the badger population is also infected with tuberculosis. It is also illogical to kill cattle which are infected but not the equally infected badgers which in their turn infect the remaining healthy cattle.

Although compensation is paid for cattle slaughtered, this does not cover the full value of infected animals nor the considerable loss of income that their death entails. Even those who are insensitive to the slaughter of farm animals do not object to the loss of disease which is the alternative—and to the financial loss and extreme stress and worry to hard-working farming families due to the complete upset of their business resulting from no more cattle and an unprofitable loss of their animals, which are the main means of producing their income, might at least be prepared to consider the future well-being of the badger population.

At present, as far as is known, only badgers in a few relatively small areas are infected with TB. If nothing is done to eradicate this disease no doubt it will become widespread among badgers throughout the country—something which surely no badger lover can possibly desire.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBERT SAUNDERS,  
St Anne's Farm,  
Broadwayne,  
Dorchester,  
Dorset,  
August 2.

## Just living

From Mr Bruce Dehn

Sir, I am certain it was the same street trader in High Holborn as was referred to in *The Times* yesterday (August 2) by Mr Peter Hargreaves who on his barrow had a sign—"If your mother-in-law is at death's door, my flowers will pull her through".

Yours faithfully,  
BRUCE DEHN,  
Compter House,  
4 Wood Street, EC2,  
August 2.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Relief of suffering in Ethiopia

From Sir Bernard Braine,  
Conservative MP for South-East Essex

Sir, Two years ago the world was shocked by the appalling famine in Ethiopia's drought-stricken provinces of Wollo and Tigre and by the seeming inability of the then regime to cope. Few could have been surprised that the armed forces staged a coup.

Although since then Ethiopia has dropped out of the headlines the sufferings of her people are unabated. Famine continues to rage not only because of drought in the Ogaden but because of the man-made displacement caused by war in Eritrea. Foreign relief agencies say that maladministration is making matters worse while Ethiopian officials accuse foreign governments of apathy and indifference in not providing more and swifter aid.

The many friends of Ethiopia in this country are anxious to help not on political but humanitarian grounds and appeal to the Derg to take steps which will make such help possible. In making this plea I am sure that the Derg will be moved to put back if the present military rulers want to introduce radical reform we wish them well, but it should be reform by persuasion and consent, not by the gun.

### University teachers' pay

From Dr Bernard Alford and others

Sir, If the report in today's *Times* (July 30) accurately represents the Government's proposals about university teachers' salaries then it represents serious evidence also of the Government's cynical disregard for its own promises and standards made in Parliament and elsewhere.

The university teachers' salary claim has been under negotiation since November, 1974. Negotiations have been conducted strictly in accordance to the social contract (and more strictly than in the case of any other group). Both sides agreed to a moratorium on industrial action in the event of disagreement.

We as university staff are still prepared to accept the social contract but the Government appears to reject it. All other teachers have had two pay awards in the last year, both of which were back-dated whereas university teachers, fulfilling the strict terms of the social contract, have sought an award only and have agreed that it should not be back-dated. Government ministers have stated repeatedly

### Electoral reform

From Mr Paul Tyler

Sir, Late converts are better than obstinate sinners. The fact that Mr Robert Carr, a former Home Secretary who could have actually initiated a change had his blinding light occurred earlier, now favours electoral reform (article, August 1) is welcome indeed.

His cautious prevarication is, however, disappointing. He represents an "amateur" commission of inquiry, which would be almost as long-winded as a Speaker's conference and no more certain of achieving results, and tentatively promotes the German system as a model. Such delaying tactics will no longer do: we need action in the next session or our parliamentary democracy will lose its last shred of credibility in the eyes of the electorate.

The obvious way forward is a phased programme of improvement, with the introduction of the alternative vote for all existing constituencies immediately, and then a more thorough review to be implemented after the next general election. This would have formidable advantages:

- 1 The alternative vote is simple enough for everyone to understand.
- 2 It could be introduced immediately, taking perhaps only a month for all its stages through both Houses.
- 3 It could be in operation at the next general election.
- 4 It would not disturb the individual member's relationship with his constituency.
- 5 By-elections present no problems.
- 6 It would encourage the elector to compare the merits of parties, and candidates, other than their traditional choice.
- 7 Conversely, it would encourage candidates to present their own views rather than simply relying on party dogma.
- 8 Once enacted, resistance to any form of electoral reform would have been shattered, and a Parliament elected on the alternative vote might be prepared to consider more radical reform on its merits.
- 9 Most important of all, it actually has a chance of being accepted by the majority of the present Parliament: most MPs would either be unaffected or (if they might expect to benefit from second preferences as "progressives") in two-party marginal situations find their position strengthened; they could thus support the alternative vote without signing their own political death warrants.

### Rear-seat car belts

From Professor E. Hoffman

Sir, I have been following your correspondence on seat belts with interest. Little attention has so far been given to the safety of rear seat passengers.

Experimental and field studies have shown that death and severe injury are caused by unrestrained car occupants being thrown about within the rigid passenger compartment or by their being ejected from the vehicle. In addition rear seat passengers when thrown forward may cause injury to front seat occupants.

In a recent investigation into causes of death following road accidents in the north of England I found that 35.2 per cent of passengers killed and 24 per cent of surviving hospital admissions were rear seat passengers. Thus about 400 rear seat passengers are killed and 4,000 seriously injured annually on the roads in this country.

When analysing the injury pattern of 13 fatally injured rear seat passengers I concluded that 12 might possibly have been saved if they had been wearing seat belts. M. S. Christison, of the Royal Free Hospital, London, estimated that about 14,000 surviving rear seat occupants sustain moderate or severe injury every year.

The fitting of seat belts for front seats became compulsory in April, 1967. The Automobile Association informed me that no car marketed in this country is supplied with rear seat belts as standard. I should like

Nor do we have any sympathy with those who wish to dismember the historic Ethiopian state.

It is out of respect for Ethiopia's aspirations and because of the long friendship between our two peoples that we urge the Derg:

- 1 to arrange through the Organization for African Unity for peace talks to start immediately, together with a cease-fire in Eritrea, thus enabling responsible international organizations to bring relief to refugees and the starving in that troubled province;
- 2 to permit representatives of such organizations to move freely throughout Ethiopia so that need can be assessed and aid organized;
- 3 to free without delay all innocent women and children at present held in detention and to allow the aged Emperor to be cared for by his relatives;
- 4 to release or to bring to trial the many political prisoners now held for over a year.

These steps would assuredly usher in a new and more hopeful era for Ethiopia. Indeed, magnanimity, as Burke reminded us long ago, is not seldom the wisest wisdom in politics. Yours truly,  
BERNARD BRAINE,  
House of Commons,  
August 1.

### Closure of Shotton steelworks

From Mr Stephen A. R. Gray

Sir, I had the privilege of being general manager of the Shotton steelworks 10 years ago, and my father was general manager before me for over 25 years. Therefore, I think that it is appropriate that I should write to you at a stage when I understand that a decision on the future of the steelmaking plant there is imminent.

Shotton was always, and I believe still is, a profitable plant, and I hope that those who have to make this decision realize that profits are about people more than configurations of plant—work people, customers and owners.

A comparatively modest sum of money spent at Shotton—modest compared with the total sum which the British Steel Corporation are reported to wish to spend—would update the steelmaking process at Shotton and make use of the heritage of good relationships which still exist there.

Yours faithfully,  
S. A. R. GRAY,  
Lower Soughton,  
Northop,  
Mold, Clwyd,  
August 4.

From Sir Anthony Meyer,  
Conservative MP for West Flint

Sir, The Government really mean to allow the British Steel Corporation to go ahead with the closure of steel making at Shotton in North Wales? They will be making a catastrophic mistake.

During the period of two years that Shotton has been under a suspended death sentence the British Steel Corporation and management have broken many production records and have maintained an enviable degree of industrial harmony—in sharp contrast to the other steel plants in Wales, which are to be expanded while Shotton is to be phased out. If reward for all this hard work and restraint is that the suspended sentence is now to be carried out, the resulting bitterness and disillusion will be terrible and long lasting.

The loss of 6,000 jobs in North Wales, in an area excessively dependent on only three employers will bring economic and social problems beyond the capacity of even the most successful government to resolve at the most favourable of economic conjunctures; with the present government, and in present circumstances the effect will be gutting.

The Steel Corporation want a shiny new industry to compete with all comers; and, as part of this, they want all new plants at the water's edge. But can Britain, in her present plight, afford so massive an investment, with all the uncertainties involved in new construction and new steel making techniques, the more so when some of the plants which are to be expanded for their new role have a long history of industrial disputes? Is it not more prudent to keep in being those plants, such as Shotton, which, over decades of profitable, successful and trouble-free production have proved themselves to be the reliable workhorses of the British Steel Industry.

I am, etc,  
ANTHONY MEYER,  
House of Commons,  
August 2.

### Highgate Old Cemetery

From the Reverend Seraphim Newman-Norton

Sir, For a number of years I have been accustomed to make regular visits to Highgate Old Cemetery, both to introduce its unique atmosphere and to introduce it to my friends, until last year when Mr Grey (July 31), I was refused admittance because of vandalism.

Sympathizing with the superintendent I asked whether I really looked like a grave-digger. Eyeing me suspiciously he stated that one of the apprehended vandals had been able to speak six languages, so appearances could be deceptive. I could only be admitted if I was a grave-owner. Unfortunately not, I replied, but I did have relations buried in the cemetery. Alas, that was not sufficient. I must be the owner or accompanied by the owner. He was very old and infirm, I explained, and unlikely to avail himself of his privilege especially as he might shortly be taking up residence elsewhere. The superintendent remained unmoved by my appeal and could only suggest that I should take the opportunity presented by my relative's demise to visit the cemetery.

I remain, Sir,  
Yours etc,  
SERAPHIM NEWMAN-NORTON,  
7 Glebe Court,  
The Glebe,  
Blackheath, SE3,  
July 31.

### Pardon or apology?

From Miss Erid McLeod

Sir, When a man, like Mr Swanson, is released from prison, after serving a considerable period of a wrongly imposed sentence, would it not be more appropriate to offer him an apology rather than give him a free pardon for a crime he did not commit?

Yours faithfully,  
ERID McLEOD,  
15 Lyndale Avenue, NW2,  
July 27.

### Those who write

From Mr David Tang

Sir, I am glad to report that "The Rest" is by far the most numerous class of contributor to your correspondence column. Taking two arbitrarily chosen months, January, 1974, and January, 1975, I obtained the following distribution:

I tell the same time, I told it to  
 the cheating to have a clock that  
 will not do a hand's turn to help,  
 that sits there telling the most bare-  
 faced lies the whole day except for  
 two brief moments of truth every  
 4 hours.  
 Yours faithfully,  
 JOHN D. G. BENNETT,  
 115 Rossmore Court,  
 Park Road, NW1,  
 July 28.

### Hiroshima's peace project

From the Mistress of Girton College, Cambridge

Sir, Since on Wednesday, August 6, the world will be remembering the thirtieth anniversary of the attack on Hiroshima, your readers may care to hear of the plans being taken at Hiroshima University where they were explained to me when I was there in May. It is the hope of the president that an interdisciplinary Centre for Peace Studies may be set up there. Although these plans are still in a tentative stage, I believe that law, medicine and historical studies are among those envisaged as essential to the work.

The University of Hiroshima bears as its emblem the Phoenix palm, and the "Phoenix City", as it often calls itself, has become a centre of welcome and good will. It has also wished to make a constructive effort towards international understanding. The English roses which were given to the memorial garden are carefully tended, and English studies were never more flourishing than they are today under Mirchin Masui, one of the survivors of the attack.

Yours sincerely,  
M. C. BRADBROOK,  
Girton College,  
Cambridge,  
August 1.

### Marine archaeology

From Mr Peter Marsden

Sir, I heartily endorse the views concerning the scandal in British nautical archaeology expressed by Mr Jeremy Green on July 28. Since the time I raised some of the points in my letter published in *The Times* on November 30, 1974, the situation has significantly worsened in certain areas.

The three basic problems are: firstly, the inadequate law which on one hand seeks to guard in the national interest, the historic and archaeological value of old wrecks through the 1973 Protection of Wrecks Act, while on the other hand permits that all antiquities from protected wrecks which are not claimed by their owners must be sold under the 1894 Merchant Shipping Act. Both Acts are administered by the Marine Division







# THE TIMES

## BUSINESS NEWS



### Questions for Mr Benn over Court Line offshoot's £6.5m loss after state aid

By Peter Hill and Maurice Corina

The Government ministers involved in the Court Line affair face more questions over the £6.5m loss after state aid.

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workers is explaining that the loss last year, before state aid, was £6.5m. The loss was caused by a variety of factors, including inflation, labour disputes, losses on some contracts, and a temporarily inflated manning level.

They are particularly examining what they described as "the milking" of Court Line's shipbuilding interests to support other activities, with disputed amounts being transferred to Caribbean operations.

Detailed negotiations to provide new state funds to Sunderland Shipbuilders have been taking place since the beginning of this year. Publication of the pre-nationalization accounts of this company has been delayed until these negotiations, which involved advice from the Industrial Development Advisory Board (IDAB), were completed.

Sunderland Shipbuilders is using its original £9m Whitehall loan to support the redevelopment of its Fallowfield yard on Wearside and modernization at two other yards. The new loans will be used to develop two of its subsidiaries, Wolsingham Steel and Sunderland Forge, as well as providing extra working capital in the advertising and preliminary statement to his

Whether the disclosure that the main shipbuilding company recorded a loss will feature in tomorrow's Commons debate on the Government's handling of the Court Line rescue mission on the basis that at least the shipbuilding side was sound and profit-making—remains to be seen.

Mr Benn is to explain why the Government took over the shipbuilding interests, the main subject of the statements said by two official inquiries last week to have misled holiday-makers.

Now that the fears they expressed at the time have come true and their jobs are threatened, they are unlikely to show much sympathy if the £6.5m loss is revealed.

At the same time Mr Benn is expected to announce that the £6.5m loss is not a problem for the Government.

Mr Benn is to explain why the Government took over the shipbuilding interests, the main subject of the statements said by two official inquiries last week to have misled holiday-makers.

### NVT chief tries to avert split over jobs cut back

By Clifford Webb

Mr Dennis Poore, chairman of Norton Villiers Triumph, met shop stewards from his Wolverhampton and Small Heath factories at an hotel in Kingsford, Staffordshire, last night to try to prevent their splitting into opposing factions over the motor cycle group's redundancy plan.

He clearly fears another frustrating year as a result of his decision to put the Wolverhampton factory into liquidation. The 18-month plan which culminated in the establishment of the Meriden Motor Cycle Cooperative, cost the company more than £7m.

It is understood at the meeting that Mr Poore emphasized to the shop stewards that, despite the obvious threat to Wolverhampton, it was by no means certain which of the two plants would be closed. In any event he wanted the redundancies to be shared between the plants, which are only 15 miles apart and accessible to both labour forces.

But in terms of a mutual approach to redundancy, they are much further apart. The Small Heath men received no support from their colleagues at Wolverhampton when they were campaigning against the setting up of the Meriden cooperative.

Now that the fears they expressed at the time have come true and their jobs are threatened, they are unlikely to show much sympathy if the £6.5m loss is revealed.

### Britain's reserves rise by \$61m after dropping for two months

By Tim Congdon

Britain's reserves of gold and foreign currency rose by \$61m last month, according to figures released yesterday by the Treasury. This was the first rise for three months, but it still leaves the level of reserves lower than in any month this year apart from June.

Pressure on the pound, which had been intense during May and June and obliged the Bank of England to support the rate by spending over \$1,000m from the reserves, abated last month. There may have been some inflow of funds into London, but the return of confidence also benefited the exchange rate.

The effective depreciation rate narrowed from 29.2 per cent on July 1 to 26.2 per cent at the close on July 31.

There was less necessity to borrow under the Treasury's exchange cover scheme. Accruals from the scheme totalled \$69m in July compared to \$261m in June and \$72m in May. Without these accruals the drop in the reserves would have been larger.

The Treasury said the pound and the resumption of capital

UK RESERVES

The following are the figures for the United Kingdom's official reserves at the end of the month issued by the Treasury yesterday:

	£m	Change in month
1971	5,582	2,526*
1972	5,645	2,404
1973	6,476	2,787
1974	6,789	2,880
1975		
Jan	6,842	2,953
Feb	7,170	3,074
Mar	7,547	3,230
Apr	7,824	3,364
May	6,789	2,880
June	6,833	2,870
July	7,004	2,908
Aug	7,171	2,982
Sept	7,132	3,032
Oct	6,491	2,802
Nov	6,198	2,837
Dec	6,259	2,909

\* Starting figures from 1971 to May 1972 valued at the Smithsonian parity rate of \$2.06371, and from June 1972 at the floating rate on the last day of the period. Gold and SDRs valued at their dollar par at the time.

### Call for UK to modify plastics deal with Russia

By Peter Hill

Industrial Correspondent

Britain's plastics industry wants the Government to modify a key clause in the Anglo-Russian trade agreement—negotiated by the Prime Minister earlier this year—to prevent the collapse of a vital sector of the country's machinery manufacturing capacity.

Leaders of the British Plastics Federation want an early meeting with ministers and Whitehall officials to discuss this.

In a statement yesterday the organization described the terms for the joint production of injection moulding machines under the Anglo-Russian Economic Cooperation programme as "a scandal".

It claimed that it put "a substantial number of jobs" in jeopardy.

Under the agreement Soviet enterprises would supply the mechanical units and British companies the electronic control systems.

The plastics industry claims that the basis for the inclusion of these machines in the trade package is inequitable. The electronic controls, according to the federation, account for only about 8 per cent of the total machine selling price, while the basic machine amounted to about 92 per cent of the price.

These machines are used in the production of a wide range of plastics materials.

The federation is angry because the industry has complained about Russian dumping of this type of machine last year and was consulted by the Department of Trade after the signing of the preliminary trade agreement with Russia last May.

In further talks held in advance of Mr Wilson's visit the industry underlined its concern and was assured that its views would be borne in mind.

Yesterday the federation claimed that it had not been consulted about the inclusion of injection moulding machinery, and noted that it had identified opportunities for British companies selling machinery for extrusion of plastics to Russia.

"This clause was frankly a lethal blow for an industry already hit by recession in domestic demand with accompanying price weaknesses that such a recession creates," it said.

Inclusion of this type of machinery did not fit in with the Government's own involvement in the plastics machinery industry, it added.

A spokesman for the federation said that repeated representations had been made to the Department of Trade about the terms of the trade pact, but these had resulted only in "fairly bland replies".

### 16,000 made idle in Leyland strike

By R. W. Shakespeare

British Leyland car workers returned from their summer holidays yesterday to find they were still without work because of a continuing labour dispute which has stopped supplies of vital components.

More than 16,000 workers in various Leyland production centres are idle, although only about 800 of them are directly involved in the strike over pay demands at one of the company's key component plants at Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire.

Production of Jaguar, Triumph, Austin 18/25, and MG Midget cars is at a standstill at plants in Coventry, Liverpool, Oxford and Abingdon. Assembly line workers have been laid off and other men have been sent home from engine and body-making workshops in the Midlands.

Attempts to settle the dispute, which has lasted six weeks, failed during the past week. These began after a meeting of the strikers last Thursday, at which there was only a seven vote majority in favour of continuing the stoppage.

The company's management

met members of the strike committee the following day, but failed to persuade them to bring forward a further meeting scheduled for this Thursday.

Then, the company announced that in view of the voting figures, it proposed to re-open the Hemel Hempstead plant yesterday morning, and that those workers who wished to return to work could do so. This move met with little success. Less than a dozen men crossed the picket line to enter the factory and no production was possible.

However, last night a Leyland official said that the week, although their current suspension units for the car assembly centres, would be kept open.

Originally the Hemel Hempstead workers claimed an interim pay increase of £10 a week, although their current wage agreement does not run out until the end of next month. They maintained that their earnings had fallen behind those of other Leyland workers and of the motor industry generally.

Now in view of the Government's new wages strategy, the strikers appear to have dropped this claim. Instead,

they are demanding that Leyland should give a firm commitment that they will get the £5 a week maximum increase when their next pay settlement takes effect on October 1.

The company says it cannot give such a commitment before negotiations with the unions take place and adds that these can only begin when the strikers go back to work. The company is refusing to provide further financial assistance while the dispute continues.

Many of the workers have now been idle for five weeks, including their two weeks' holiday, and Leyland's total production losses exceed £30m.

Swan Hunter dispute: Five thousand outfitting and ancillary workers in Swan Hunter's Tyne shipyards voted to continue their month-long strike after refusing a pay offer their negotiators provisionally accepted last week.

This would have given them an immediate increase of £3.50 with another £2 at the end of January. The strikers want £10 a week more.

Lockheed, which manufactures the Rolls-Royce-engined TriStar jet, may have violated the terms under which it obtained up to \$250m (about £120m) of government loan guarantees by making payments, according to officials investigating the situation.

The payments are being investigated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Lockheed's planned recapitalization is to be subject to lengthy delay until the SEC has determined what action to take.

But, even more importantly, the company fears it may lose vital foreign orders if it is forced

to reveal to whom it made political payments. Such disclosure may be forced upon Lockheed by the Senate's subcommittee on multinational corporations.

Lockheed disclosed that it made foreign sales to more than 30 countries in the last four and a half years totalling about \$2,212m and that about 15 per cent of the commissions it paid abroad in this period went to government or political organizations.

The total volume of all foreign commissions was about \$147m with a further \$55m committed. About \$290,000 of commissions had been made out of a fund of about \$750,000 which the company admitted "had been established outside the channels of financial accountability".

Lockheed maintains that to disclose to whom payments were made could risk losing several hundred million dollars worth of the backlog of foreign orders totalling \$1,500m.

Gulf Oil made a similar argument some months ago, suggesting that disclosure could lead to foreign nationalization of its assets. But Gulf was forced to disclose fully by the Senate committee on multinational corporations.

The SEC has been placed in a particularly difficult situation. Its task is to defend the interests of shareholders by ensuring full public disclosure of accounts. But such disclosure in this case could lead to bankruptcy for Lockheed.

The Government's Emergency Loan Guarantee Board is fully aware that to end its loan to Lockheed would mean ruin for the company.

Some leading government officials take the view that Lockheed, because of its work in the defence sector, is a vitally important company and that its foreign payments should be ignored. These officials have sympathy for Lockheed's view that these payments are essen-

### OECD says Germany faces decline in output

From Peter Norman Bonn, Aug 4

West Germany's gross national product will decline by a real 2 per cent this year, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development predicts.

In its annual survey of the West German economy, the OECD said that the Bonn government's original target of a 2 per cent growth and even its forecast in May that the economy would stagnate in 1975 had proved to be increasingly unrealistic.

Foreign demand was unexpectedly weak in the first half of this year, with exports falling by 13 per cent compared with the previous six months. The domestic economy had responded only sluggishly to the government's reflationary measures.

Although some recovery in activity was expected in the second half of 1975, the OECD said it would be virtually impossible to prevent a fall in real GNP this year, given the 4.5 per cent decline that took place in the first half.

Unemployment will continue at a high level for some time to come. The OECD expected that it would average 1.1 million or just under 5 per cent of the labour force this year, given the downward trend should set in later in 1975, unemployment was still expected to average

### US heading for surplus of \$5,000m

From Our US Economics Correspondent Washington, Aug 4

This year the United States is likely to have a trade surplus of \$4,000m (£1,900m) to \$5,000m after a deficit of \$2,300m in 1974, according to government economists in today's issue of the Commerce Department's publication *Commerce Today*.

The report notes that United States exports are likely to be sluggish for the rest of the year, after rising by 7 per cent in the first half to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$104,600m.

This forecast is based on expectations of weak and uneven economic recovery abroad tempering demand, combined with possibly a slight decline in agricultural exports.

Imports meanwhile are seen as rising after a fall of 6.5 per cent in the first half to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$93,800m. The increase is seen as a product of the domestic economic upswing, coupled with the likelihood of further oil price increases by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The economists say that exports to the United Kingdom are likely to be at least equal, and possibly exceed, the second half 1974 level, after rising 18.4 per cent to \$1,900m in the first four months of this year.

Australian surplus: Australia recorded a \$424m (£150m) balance of payments surplus in the June quarter—the largest since the December quarter, 1972. The June quarter result represents a big improvement on the \$425m surplus in the March quarter and the \$431m deficit in the June quarter last year.—AP-Dow Jones.

Swiss fall: The Swiss balance of payments current account surplus fell to 510m francs (£90m) in 1974, compared with 890m francs in 1973, according to estimates by the commission for economic research.—Reuters.

### Petrol retailers to name groups giving subsidies

By Roger Vidyave

Some leading oil companies are alleged to be offering selected petrol retailers cash subsidies as part of the petrol price cutting war.

The Petroleum Retailers Association, which has been evaluating the first part of a nationwide survey of petrol retailing, says the subsidies are being paid on top of the normal trade rebates.

Mr Geoffrey Atkinson, secretary of the association said it

plans to pass on to the Government the names of the companies selling petrol below cost.

The survey has shown that while overall sales of petrol are down by only 0.7 per cent this year, most dealers are suffering losses in trade of up to 15 per cent.

Mr Atkinson said the PRA would be asking the Government to introduce a minimum price for petrol, and might consider asking for a French-style ban on the advertising and promotion of petrol.

### Payments disclosure puts Lockheed in peril

From Frank Vogt Washington, Aug 4

Lockheed Aircraft Corporation's admission on Friday that it had paid millions of dollars to foreign governments and political organizations to secure contracts, has created a dilemma for the Federal government and threatened the company's chances of survival.

Lockheed, which manufactures the Rolls-Royce-engined TriStar jet, may have violated the terms under which it obtained up to \$250m (about £120m) of government loan guarantees by making payments, according to officials investigating the situation.

The payments are being investigated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and Lockheed's planned recapitalization is to be subject to lengthy delay until the SEC has determined what action to take.

But, even more importantly, the company fears it may lose vital foreign orders if it is forced

to reveal to whom it made political payments. Such disclosure may be forced upon Lockheed by the Senate's subcommittee on multinational corporations.

Lockheed disclosed that it made foreign sales to more than 30 countries in the last four and a half years totalling about \$2,212m and that about 15 per cent of the commissions it paid abroad in this period went to government or political organizations.

The total volume of all foreign commissions was about \$147m with a further \$55m committed. About \$290,000 of commissions had been made out of a fund of about \$750,000 which the company admitted "had been established outside the channels of financial accountability".

Lockheed maintains that to disclose to whom payments were made could risk losing several hundred million dollars worth of the backlog of foreign orders totalling \$1,500m.

Gulf Oil made a similar argument some months ago, suggesting that disclosure could lead to foreign nationalization of its assets. But Gulf was forced to disclose fully by the Senate committee on multinational corporations.

The SEC has been placed in a particularly difficult situation. Its task is to defend the interests of shareholders by ensuring full public disclosure of accounts. But such disclosure in this case could lead to bankruptcy for Lockheed.

The Government's Emergency Loan Guarantee Board is fully aware that to end its loan to Lockheed would mean ruin for the company.

Some leading government officials take the view that Lockheed, because of its work in the defence sector, is a vitally important company and that its foreign payments should be ignored. These officials have sympathy for Lockheed's view that these payments are essen-

tial for obtaining business abroad.

But the Senate multinational committee believes that all foreign political payments by United States companies are immoral and lead in time to the spread of corruption that undermines democracy.

Thus, while there are indications that the SEC and the loan board may wish to play down the affair, it seems increasingly probable that the committee will not permit this.

Many members of the Senate committee are deeply disturbed by the attitude of many companies that there is nothing wrong with bribing foreign officials because others do it.

Lockheed seems to take this view and noted that "the company also believes that such payments are consistent with practices engaged in by numerous other companies abroad, including many of its competitors, and are in keeping with business practices in many countries".

### Metal Box issue disappoints

Only 59 per cent of the 6.7 million ordinary shares offered by Metal Box under its recent £24.1m rights issue have been taken up by shareholders. The remaining 41 per cent will be taken up by underwriters.

Although this disappointing result might help influence the future flow of rights issues by industrial groups, it is by no means the worst market response on record.

### Distillers getting £25m City loan

Distillers Company, the biggest producer of Scotch whiskeys has reached agreement to borrow £25m from Finance For Industry.

The loan is in two parts. One is for £10m at a floating rate of 21 per cent over the six month interbank rate, the other is for £15m at a fixed rate of 15 per cent. Both parts are for 10 years with repayments starting in 1978.

Financial Editor, page 17

### BP silent on report of oil find in North Sea

By Our Energy Correspondent

British Petroleum is preparing for a full-scale test programme on its Magnus oil discovery in the North Sea, amid growing speculation that the drilling schedule on the block has confirmed a major commercial find.

Since May 15 the semi-submersible rig Sedco 6 has been drilling a second appraisal well on block 211/12 which is in the far north. BP said yesterday that it could not comment on rumours about the well until it had been fully tested over the next two to three weeks.

### Fidelity Life manager

Mr Donald Chilvers, a partner in Coopers and Lybrand, has been appointed special manager of Fidelity Life Assurance.

His duties will be to advise the provisional liquidator who was appointed to Fidelity Life last Monday after the company's inability to meet Department of Trade demands that its assets should be increased by £750,000.

Business letters, page 15

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### How the markets moved

The Times index: 118.90 - 0.79  
The FT index: 282.1 - 0.7

Rises	Falls
Baker Perkins 3p to 38p	Baird, W. 4p to 55p
Brown & Tawse 5p to 57p	Boots 2p to 96p
Concorde 1p to 111p	Brit Am Tob 8p to 27p
Cornwall 2p to 23p	Brit Am Tob 8p to 27p
Churchill 1p to 11p	Erith 5p to 58p
Churchill Est 18p to 128p	EMI 2p to 161p
Clairmont 6p to 52p	Eng & Int 5p to 62p
CCH Inv 1p to 14p	
	Furness Withy 6p to 22p
	GKN 4p to 150p
	Kidson 4p to 50p
	Paterson Zoch 10p to 32p
	Tube Invest 5p to 22p
	Tricoville 5p to 17p
	Unilever 4p to 32p
	Woolworth 5p to 40p

Sterling fell by 55 points to \$2.1420. The "effective devaluation" rate was 26.5 per cent. SDR-5 was 1.18965 on Monday, while SDR-4 was 0.55617.

Commodities: Coffee was sharply higher yesterday. Reuters' commodity index closed at 1,144.4 (1,138.0 on Friday).

Shares, pages 18 and 19

Equities remained lifeless. Gilt-edged securities were mixed.

### STOCK CONVERSION

Results for Year to 31st March

	1975	1974
Net Revenue before tax	£2,407	£2,318
Tax	1,224	1,329
Net Revenue after tax	1,183	1,289
Dividend	9.1%	8.26%

Robert Clark, M.A., LL.B. (Chairman).

Other relevant points from Directors' Report and Accounts:

- Forecast of net revenue before taxation for current year—around £31m.
- Group share of £11m of surplus on Directors' valuation of recently completed investment properties.
- Shareholders' funds now in excess of £61m.

A Copy of the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March, 1975 will be supplied on application to the Secretary.

THE STOCK CONVERSION AND INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED  
130, Jermyn Street, London, SW1Y 4UP

### Magnet Joinery

#### Continued Expansion of Depot Outlets

Extracts from the Statement by Mr. J. T. Duxbury, Chairman of Magnet Joinery Limited, for the year to 28th February, 1975.

- Depot sales increased by 7.4% to £25.4 million. We now have 114 depots in operation.
- Our depot policy makes us less dependent on new housing starts and gives us better stability in times of recession. Expansion of depot outlets will continue together with improvements to facilities at existing depots.
- The factory at Grays, Essex has been closed, enabling us to concentrate production of prepared joinery, doors, windows and ancillary products at our very modern manufacturing unit at Kighley. We intend to lease the Grays factory for a substantial annual income.
- I would expect turnover for the current year to exceed last year, providing that the economy does not take a violent turn for the worse. 1978 must be viewed with extreme caution.

Comparative Figures	1975	1974
Turnover	£26,928,294	£25,483,713
Profit before Taxation	£5,167,961	£6,986,290
Profit after Taxation and minority interests	£2,451,888	£3,370,795
Earnings per Ordinary Share	19.6p	28.6p
Dividend per Ordinary Share (maximum permitted)	2.7351p	2.5729p
Cash flow	£5,628,926	£4,261,898

Copies of the full report and Accounts may be obtained from—The Secretary, Royd (Ings Avenue, Kighley, Yorkshire, BD21 4BY.



## Cooperation main topic of Bonn talks with Saudis

From Peter Norman  
Bonn, Aug 4

Prospects for economic co-operation between West Germany and Saudi Arabia will be the main topic at the meeting of the joint economic commission of the two countries which opens in Bonn tomorrow.

The commission, which has been set up after a visit to Saudi Arabia by Dr. Hans Friderichs, Germany's economic minister, last November, will be headed on the German side by Dr. Detlev Rohwedder, economic ministry state secretary, and on the Saudi side by Mr. Yamani al-Hayali, their ambassador in Bonn.

Also taking part will be the governor of Petromin, the state-owned Saudi oil concern, members of the Saudi planning staff and industrialists from both countries.

This meeting of the commission has taken on a special importance since the Saudi decision in May to draw up a \$142,000m (£67.7m) five-year development plan which will replace the country's first five-year plan from the beginning of next year.

The plan, of which a good 60 per cent is earmarked for economic and social development projects, is 10 times the size of the plan it replaces. High on the agenda of the talks will be the Saudi government's wish for increased co-operation between German and Saudi companies in joint ventures. It is unlikely, however, that any big contracts will be signed in the two days of the commission's meeting.

Last year German exports to Saudi Arabia jumped by 120 per cent to DM735m (£135m) comprising mainly vehicles, machine tools and electrical goods.

In turn, Saudi Arabia was Germany's most important crude oil supplier. Crude oil accounted for 97 per cent of the DM5,263m worth of goods that Germany imported from Saudi Arabia.

## Chrysler holds car output levels but other makers show sharp decline

Average weekly production of cars and commercial vehicles by Britain's motor industry during June this year is significantly down on last year, according to figures issued by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Car production averaged 21,888 per week during June, compared with a weekly average of 33,191 in June, 1974, an 11,303 fall. The corresponding figures for commercial vehicle production were 6,970 and 8,253.

The average weekly production of cars during the first six months of this year is 25,772, compared with 31,819 in 1974. This was a 6,047 drop. The comparable figures for commercial vehicles at 7,934 and 7,641 show an improvement.

Chrysler is the only major car manufacturer whose weekly average production figures in

June did not show a sharp decline. The company built an average of 5,316 cars a week in June, compared with 5,464 a week in June, 1974.

British Leyland's figures were 10,295 this year compared with 15,561 in 1974; Ford's were 4,442 and 5,318 respectively and Vauxhall's were 1,702 and 2,602 respectively.

The specialist car manufacturers were also similarly affected. Leyland's weekly production averaged nine cars as against 30 in June last year and Reliant averaging 18 compared with 40 in 1974.

British Leyland's commercial vehicle production has been less affected by the industry recession with weekly production averaging 2,457, compared with 2,689 last June, and production of Chrysler's half of this year averaging 2,867 a week compared with 2,466 in 1974.

Ford's commercial vehicle production figures follow a similar pattern with weekly production averaging 2,440 compared with 2,752, and production in the first six months of the year rising to a weekly average of 2,582, from 2,375 in 1974.

Japanese car sales: New car registrations in June totalled 383,632 vehicles during July, up 26.7 per cent from June and 26.5 per cent from July, 1974.

The July registration total was the third largest on record, following 442,000 cars registered in March, 1973, and the 405,000 registered in March, 1975.

Imported cars accounted for 4,017 units, an 18.7 per cent decline over the previous year. The July total included 286,289 passenger cars, a 32.5 per cent rise over last year.

## MPs given seven point wool textiles rescue plan

A restriction on imports of wool and man-made fibre predominated garments from Eastern European countries, particularly Romania, Yugoslavia and Hungary, is included in a seven-point action programme put forward today by Britain's wool textile industry to stop closures of more mills.

Details of the programme have been sent by the Yorkshire-based industry to local MPs ahead of tomorrow's debate in the House of Commons, on the state of the textile industry.

It urges protection from disruptive imports of acrylic yarns and clothing of all fibres, including knitwear, from low cost countries under the bilateral agreements to be negotiated by the European Economic Community under the multi fibre arrangement.

It wants statistics provided by surveillance agencies to be used to counter existing and emerging disruptive imports before they cause further serious injury to sectors of the textile industry. Particularly, the industry asks for action to be taken against imports of low-priced woolsens from Italy.

It suggests the Prime Minister's promise of assistance under the Industry Act, 1972, should be implemented by financial aid to the industry for the installation of costly guards to carding engines.

The industry wants instructions to be given to government departments, state trading industries and local authorities to buy British made textiles and clothing.

Recognition of the fact that a practical and balanced textile industry does not simply comprise a collection of profitable companies, but must also include the necessary research, educational and training back up facilities.

There is a minimum size below which such back-up services cannot be sustained and any further reduction in the size of the wool textile industry must inevitably bring into question the future of the research and training facilities in west Yorkshire in particular.

Mr Roy Stroud, chairman of the Wool Textile Delegation, the industry's senior organization said yesterday that what was urgently needed was some immediate action.

"The preservation of the wool textile industry is a vital national matter not only because of its high export earnings, but because it is also of crucial importance to regional economies," he said.

He added: "If the industry is asrophied any further, there will be irreparable damage to the capacity to supply the home and export markets when the recession ends."

## Kuwait takeover talks deadlock

Kuwait, Aug 3.—Kuwait's negotiations with Gulf Oil and the British Petroleum for a government purchase of the companies' remaining 40 per cent interest in Kuwait Oil Company apparently have reached an impasse.

An official said the state was seriously considering a unilateral takeover.

He said the two companies are proving to be a difficult negotiator. The official said. Sources here said the government had proposed a net book value basis for compensation, which was said to have been accepted by Gulf but refused by BP.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### How secure is the safety of insurance around you?

From Mr E. F. Stern  
Sir, As an unfortunate pensioner who invested his savings in a National Life Guaranteed Income Bond, I am, of course, in complete agreement with Mr Justice Templeman's criticism of the insurance industry, and I find Mr Bigland's refusal to accept any responsibility on behalf of the industry quite unconvinced.

I would remind him that the National Life company were members of the BIA, whose motto and crest bear the words "Security". Was this just meaningless? And what about the television adverts inviting the public to get the security and safety of life insurance around them?

Was he not aware that responsible insurance brokers were recommending this company as a sound and safe investment? Could he also explain why no consortium of insurance companies came to the rescue of National Life, the way did in the case of London General Indemnity?

I find Mr Bigland's newly found support for the Government's Policyholders' Protection Bill somewhat ironic, in view of the complete hostility shown to this scheme by the insurance industry when it was first mooted.

EDMUND D. STERN,  
16 Graham Road,  
West Kirby, Wirral, Cheshire.

From Major R. R. G. Hoare (Reid)  
Sir, On July 29 you reported the failure of the above Fidelity Life Company, including

its Life Company, including very disquieting details such as the company neglecting their obligations and making investments without approval of their board.

The type of policies issued were inter alia guaranteed bonds described as Secure Income Bonds; they were stated to be absolutely secure, and that the company was a member of a group with assets in excess of £125m. For a person with inflation in 1972 not so important as today, these bonds seemed an ideal vehicle for a steady and reliable income.

However, the method and safeguards of issue contrasted most unfavourably with a public issue of ordinary shares which have the legal requirements of a prospectus. Yet security for an insurance policy should surely be much more important than for equities which many people in retirement avoid for reasons of safety?

The Fidelity insurance company directed their advertising to people like myself, who unfortunately bought their bonds on the emphasis on security element. Such people cannot easily make up, due to retirement, a shortfall in their income. Hence it is incumbent on the company to show a high degree of responsibility and absence of effective statutory controls is deplorable.

R. R. G. HOARE, Surrey.

### UK postal rates to France

From Mr P. R. Sautler  
Sir, I read in *The Times* of July 30 that a spokesman of the French Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications said that negotiations were still in course between the British and French authorities for letters to be sent from France to Great Britain at normal domestic rate instead of the very much higher international rate which obtains at present.

As your report rightly points out, British tourists are at a disadvantage compared with Germans and Italians who pay the domestic rate under an agreement which the French have with the five founder members of the EEC. But British businessmen also suffer the same disadvantage compared with their major European competitors in the French market.

The British Chamber of Commerce in France and the French Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain have made this point

to the French and British postal authorities and asked for the situation to be changed.

Only this month, however, the Director-General of Posts at the French Ministry has written to say that while the conclusion of arrangements with the three new members of the EEC similar to those with the five founder members is not excluded, the negotiation of such agreements is not foreseen at the present time.

I hope that your report fore-shadows the start of discussions by the British and French postal authorities on this question, as it is essential that British businessmen compete on the same terms as other EEC businessmen.

Yours sincerely,  
P. R. SAUTLER,  
Secretary-General, British Chamber of Commerce, France,  
6 Rue Halévy,  
Paris.  
July 30.

### Allaying fears on hypermarkets

From Mr K. Williams  
Sir, I was particularly interested in Mr F. P. Chappell's letter on hypermarkets, for we are fortunate enough to have had one open to our home, and I can, perhaps, allay some of Mr Chappell's fears.

Over the year it has been open, we have read that it has been identified by a consumer organization as, first, the third from lowest priced food store in the country in their survey, and, secondly, that it had improved its position in a subsequent survey to the lowest priced food store—currently to show an advantage of about 10 per cent savings.

As shoppers, both my wife and I find it to be the most convenient form of shopping, and, alternatively, it will still appear to be just as impossible as ever to find parking space in the town centre of Southampton—just as impossible as ever, although a great deal more ex-

pensive following two parking charge increases. Indeed, there will look to be no more empty shops available now than there have ever been. The small shopkeepers in this area do not, as Mr Chappell asserts, appear to have been killed off by the supermarkets and I doubt that either will be killed off by the hypermarket—splendid and emotive though his claim sounds.

Certainly, neither the town centres of Southampton nor Eastleigh appear to have suffered in terms of the crowds that shop there, and I would say to anyone living in Harrogate—or anywhere else—that if a hypermarket plan is proposed for the locality, you are fortunate and should give it every encouragement.

Yours faithfully,  
K. WILLIAMS,  
213 Bassett Avenue,  
Southampton.  
July 28.

### Need to up limit for VAT registration

From Mr E. C. Wilson  
Sir, We have recently read through our *Kentish* of Parliament a request for consideration of the £5 to which business and civil enterprises are subject for registration purposes.

Our contention is £5,000 limit, set in 1958 for compulsory registration, bears little relation to current values when inflationary spiral is taken into consideration.

The reply received from Treasury, was "True that inflation has reduced the value of £5 it is still much higher in force in any of the value Added Tax countries which have the legal requirements of a prospectus. Yet security for an insurance policy should surely be much more important than for equities which many people in retirement avoid for reasons of safety?"

We have been treated to a series of statistics—rises in wages and an FT and outcashes the rise in the value of the pound which is a factor in the VAT in relation to other countries. I should be interested to hear of which there are a few left the small businesses apart from pay and more for the price of his goods and it price he has to charge him over this £5,000 limit.

Or perhaps, the Treasury a hint of worse things. E. C. WILSON, Secretary, The Assoc. Men of Kent and Kent Pudding Lane, Maidstone.

### Cheque card

From Mr D. L. Barker  
Sir, Your correspondent Peck (July 30) said he has great experience of using cheque cards, and that the cheque card system is guaranteed.

If his card is of it print, he will see that it clearly states that cheque not exceeding any one transaction.

Therefore if this lot of card is used, it is a cheque card. It is a cheque card for £2 in action, and one or more cheques are subsequently honoured for lack of any other reason, perhaps be held that obtained a pecuniary advantage, a deception, an offence under the 1958.

A further point of it that it has been known shop to suggest to a customer when more the cheque is used in it transaction, then the cheque should be difficult to pay them, even if it no funds, and this is made a condition purchase.

In such a case, if a dishonoured, it would that not only has the cheque obtained pecuniary advantage by it, but that the trader accessory, and he to it mitted an offence.

D. L. BARKER,  
32 The Fairway,  
Flackwell Heath, Bucks.

## First deliveries of ICL 2900-series systems

First deliveries to customers of ICL 2900-series computer systems have been made to W. H. Smith, the newsagents and booksellers group, and the Regional Computing Organization at Edinburgh University.

Each system is a Model 2970, valued at more than £1m. The Edinburgh machine is a "pilot" system prior to delivery of a larger 2980 model next March.

The Smiths system is installed at the company's supply centre in Swindon, Wiltshire, and is undergoing trial testing before being officially handed over by ICL later this year.

It will take over work which is being done by an ICL 1904A and a 1903T at the Swindon centre, which is claimed to be one of the most modern automated warehouse complexes in Britain.

One requirement for the Smiths computer was that it would be capable of meeting the company's data-processing needs for the next 10 years without any change of processor.

The Scottish Regional Computing Organization is a consortium which coordinates the computing facilities of the universities of Edinburgh, Glasgow and Strathclyde. It provides specialist computing services to the participating universities, and coordinates the independent on-site computers

### Computer news

at each university, which are linked via a communications network.

Installation and commissioning of the Edinburgh 2970 took only 17 days, and basic acceptance trials have been completed. Initial tasks now include converting existing programmes, validating the 2980 benchmark, and assessing the 2900 communications interface.

The RCO network is based on users having access to a number of large machines through remote batch entry terminals. The organization is also interested in providing a interactive service, and the 2970 will be used to evaluate the best way of achieving this.

### CAP forms new group

Computer Analysts and Programmers have set up a new holding company to coordinate the marketing and maintenance of software products in certain European and Middle East countries. First year's turnover is expected to be at least £800,000.

To be known as Computer Automated Products, the new company will handle pro-

grams which were developed by Applied Data Research of Princeton, New Jersey, and previously handled by CAP Europe.

The change was proposed by a group of former CAP Europe product sales staff, following the recent change in ownership of CAP Europe (Computer News, July 15).

At first, ADR programs will be marketed in Austria, Belgium, The Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, West Germany and certain Middle East countries.

A powerful new computer-based planning tool has been introduced by British Gas for scheduling major engineering works on its 2,500-mile natural-gas pipeline network.

Using a computer program known as Mimos (Mixed integer operational scheduling), the corporation's planners can assess the impact of the many factors and constraints which can affect the prompt completion of the modifications, extensions and maintenance operations which are scheduled for the national network.

About 30 of these "special operations" are planned for the period between April and October this year. Developed at the London research station of

British Gas, the new program uses linear programming techniques to take into account all appropriate variables to obtain the best solution.

In normal operation, the program would be run on a Univac 1106 computer at the London research station. For both original scheduling and for rescheduling where necessary, the use of Mimos can cost up to £10,000 a day when contractors and materials are standing idle.

Nixdorf collects taxes  
Fifteen Nixdorf 720 visible-record computers have been installed in the 11 decentralized offices of the Collector of Taxes for the Greater London area.

Cost of the machines, it is estimated, will soon be covered by savings in staff costs. The 11 offices are responsible for collecting corporation tax, advance corporation tax, capital gains tax, income tax and national insurance, and for issuing receipts or vouchers. Previously, the receipts and vouchers were handwritten and the accounting procedures were handled manually. The transaction followed an investigation by the organization and methods section of the Collector of Taxes department.

Kenneth Owen

Business appointments  
Barclays Bank names two new general managers

Mr J. G. Quinton and Mr A. E. Bagley have been named general managers of Barclays Bank, Mr C. V. Toole becomes a regional general manager for the London region. He will be succeeded as regional general manager for the north west region by Mr D. R. A. Cross.

Mr Donald T. Wendle has been made a director of Johnsons, a London-based company, and a director of Mr P. M. de Wae.

Mr D. A. Franklin, who has hitherto been an alternate director of the Colson, has been appointed as a full member of the board of Argyle Securities as financial director. Mr P. G. Conner has resigned as a director.

Mr C. M. de Boer has been promoted to secretary of the Panel on Take-Overs and Mergers in place of Mr B. J. Tremble. Mr B. J. Tremble, who remains an assistant director general.

Mr Martin Jourdan, managing director of Parker Knoll Furniture, has become deputy chairman of the Parker Knoll Group in addition to his existing responsibilities. It is intended that he will take over as chairman from Mr Hans Jourdan in August next year.

Mr John A. Deane Jr, a director of London Multinational Bank, has been named managing director of the Hongkong-based merchant bank, Barings Bank, Multinational from September 1. Mr Deane, who will remain on the board of London Multinational Bank, has been seconded to his new post for two years.

Mr D. G. Nicholson, Mr N. K. Kinkead-Weekes and Mr G. Langton have been appointed to the committee of the board of Anglo American Corporation of South Africa.

Mr E. J. Jowrey has become financial controller of Allied Polymer Group.

Mr H. V. Keating, deputy chairman of Southern Gas, has been named as deputy chairman of West Midlands by British Gas, with effect from October 1. He succeeds Mr E. G. Jones, who is retiring.

Mr G. C. Rose has been appointed as director of the research centre, near Chesham, with effect from mid-December, 1975. He succeeds Professor R. Barlow, who becomes Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge from January 1, 1976.

Mr Robert Andrews Buskisson is chairman of the Overseas Development Committee for the

Hotels and Catering Industry. Mr D. A. Clarke has retired from the board of Spang and Co. Mr W. H. Wood, secretary of Cradley Printing Co., is now a director.

Mr C. Sparrow has been elected to the board of William Pickles.

Mr Costas Ioannides has joined the board of Bank of Cyprus (London) as finance director. Mr Arthur Chamberlain has become chairman of A. E. Jenks and Cartel, following the death of Mr G. W. Wood. Mr Bruce Sutcliffe, deputy chairman, has resigned from the board at his own request. Mr Robin Jenks has been appointed managing director.

Mr H. P. Harley is now managing director of BIF British Industries Federation.

Mr Archibald Patterson has been elected a non-executive director on the main board of the Derek Cook Group.

Mr D. N. Pearson has been appointed a director of Borhat Tea Co. and Acharham Tea Co. Mr W. A. V. Wood has been made a member of the board of Morrice Tower & Beck (Holdings) Ltd. retaining his appointment of company secretary.

Mr W. J. Richardson is now a director of West Cumberland Silk Mills.

Mr John McElroy has become a director of Rush and Tompkins Scotland.

Mr E. W. G. Dance has been named as an assistant director at the British Gas Corporation's Research House, London. He will have primary responsibility for the approval and standards division.

Mr M. Barber will be financial director of Christian Salvesen (Managers), Edinburgh, as from September 1, in place of E. D. D. Gibb who will remain a director, concentrating on special financial assignments.

Mr Colin Brindley becomes a director and secretary of Roberts and Birch (Roberts), the meat manufacturers and distributors. Mr George Cannon, chief executive of Pich Lovell, of which Roberts is a member, becomes chairman of Roberts following the retirement of Mr Trevor Beer. Mr R. J. Ashton and Mr B. S. Adkin are appointed executive directors.

Mr B. Sanders, general manager of the Animal Health Division, has been elected to the board of Smith Kline and French Laboratories.

## VAUX BREWERIES

Points from the statement by Mr. Douglas Nicholson, Chairman of Vaux Breweries Limited, for the year ended 30th April, 1975:

- Our turnover increased by 23% to £44.4 million and our pre-tax profits rose from £3,808 million to £3,893 million. Earnings per share are up from 25p to 26.8p and the total dividend of 12.8528p per share is the maximum permitted.
- Such is the pace of inflation that we have been forced to increase our prices three times this year by a total of 2p, and the Government, despite allegedly trying to control inflation, has added 3p per pint in duty.
- Beer sales are up around 3% with most of the increase achieved in clubs and the free trade, and Norseman lager has continued to show excellent results. Sales of wines and spirits also increased in volume and we expanded our Blayney off-licence chain into Scotland.
- Our Swallow Hotels division has done better and the level of business demonstrates that these hotels will prove good investments in the long term.
- We have been forced to cut back some of our long term development plans, particularly in hotels and pubs. We are, however, concentrating on developing and modernising our plant and services to cope with the growing take home trade brought about by the significant gap in the cost of "on" and "off-sales".
- We are also currently preparing plans to double the capacity of Wards Brewery in Sheffield to cope with the increasing trade levels they have achieved since joining the Group in 1973.
- During the year we acquired 76% of a small Belgian brewery at Oudenarde to develop the sales of Vaux beers in this substantial market.
- We are facing very difficult problems and the national situation makes it hard to be optimistic. However, our sales to date are ahead of last year despite the effects of the Budget, and there are signs, as the recession deepens, that the North East and Scotland are not as badly off, relative to the rest of the country, as previously.

Comparative Figures	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Profit before Tax	2,159	2,620	3,618	3,808	3,893
Tax	1,156	1,457	1,539	2,015	1,957
Net Dividends	442	551	766	798	878
Profit retained	446	495	1,190	867	928

## Letraset

### Preliminary Results 1974-75

	1974-75	1973-74
Sales (£000)	17228	13432
Profit before tax (£000)	2010	2726
Earnings per share (pence)	4.67	7.14
Dividend per share (pence)	1.2815	1.2053

Sales growth was less than planned, caused by reduction of dealer inventories and the impact of world recession on consumer demand. Our strong competitive position has been maintained.

Profit was affected by the lead time necessary to adjust costs to lower than planned sales. We have now achieved a major reduction in our fixed cost base.

The taxation charge was further affected by overseas losses, particularly in Japan, where remedial action has been taken.

The Board recommends the maximum dividend permitted under current legislation.

Our financial position continues to strengthen, with a marked reduction in the ratio of external liabilities to shareholders interest. Borrowings are well within existing facilities.

The Annual Report will be posted to shareholders on 27 August 1975 and the Annual General Meeting will be held on 19 September 1975.

Letraset International Limited,  
St. George's House, 195 Waterloo Road,  
London SE1 8XJ.











## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Issues &amp; Loans

ear's volume  
£1,000m  
ter record July

July total for new capital was the largest monthly ever recorded—according to the Midland Bank—and the figure for the seven months to July is higher than for the same period of 1972. July itself netted £268m of new money, just £42m a year earlier. The seven-month aggregate reached £1,741m—more than £1,000m above the same period of 1974.

Most of July's new money accounted for by 35 rights issues, which raised £211.7m, as included Town & City Properties (£25.4m), Legal & General (£24.1m) and Baxi (£22.6m).

Meanwhile the Bank of England's analysis for the month, which is drawn up on a different basis, shows gross issues for July of £279, against £29m for June. After redemption of £14.4m, the net figure is £174.4m, just £24.2m above the £150.2m of June.

Lowe & Brydson gets  
FC injection

A new secured, long-term facility has been arranged for Lowe & Brydson (Printers), which hopes this year to make first profit since 1970-71. The loan of £200,000 has been arranged by Industrial & Commercial Finance, which will be the option to subscribe for 100,000 shares (14 per cent of enlarged equity) at par.

The Brydson board considers the arrangement of borrowings, together with the provision of new equipment and a working capital, will enable the group to strengthen trading position.

d of the boom for  
utinho Caro

1974 pretax profits of the nationalised Companhia do Petróleo, which is privately owned, totalled £2.7m. Turnover rose from £24.7m to a record £31m, of which exports accounted for £16m (£6.6m). Accounts include for the time the new companies in Brazil and South Africa.

Bank Base  
Rates

Barclays Bank	9 1/4%
Hoare & Co.	9 1/4%
Lloyds Bank	9 1/4%
Midland Bank	9 1/4%
Westminster	9 1/4%
Shenley Trust	11 1/4%
10th Century Bank	11 1/4%
Williams & Glyn's	9 1/4%

7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 6 1/4% up to £25,000, 6 1/2%, over £25,000, 7 1/4%.

WANKIE COLLIERY  
COMPANY LIMITED

(Incorporated in Rhodesia)  
NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF  
51 PER CENT FIRST  
MORTGAGE DEBENTURES

INTEREST PAYMENT NO. 44  
Notice is hereby given that the interest on the debentures will be paid on the 15th day of August, 1975, at the rate of 10 per cent per annum on the principal sum of £100,000.

Due to current exchange control regulations, the Company is unable to make payment of interest due to holders resident in the United Kingdom, Zambia or Tanzania. Interest due to such holders must be paid into a blocked account in the Rhodesian bank in Rhodesia. The Rhodesian exchange control regulations permit the investment of funds on blocked accounts in interest-bearing savings and fixed deposit accounts with the commercial banks. Such applications may also be made to the Rhodesian exchange control through an authorised dealer for payment to the blocked funds for the holder's investment in Rhodesia. Arrangements are being made for holders resident in the United Kingdom, Zambia or Tanzania, who are not resident in the United Kingdom, to have their interest paid to them in the United Kingdom.

By order of the Board  
For and on behalf of  
ANGLO AMERICAN  
CORPORATION OF  
SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED  
—London Secretaries  
—D. H. J. Patterson

London Office:  
1, Holborn Viaduct, EC1A 1AJ.  
Office of the United Kingdom  
are transfer agents  
Hartley Consolidated Limited,  
One Bank Lane, Park Street,  
London, W1A 2EQ.  
1st July, 1975.

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Eurobond prices  
(midday indicators)

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ABIC 2422	





### Stock Exchange prices

## Long dated gilts firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began July 28. Dealings End Aug 8. § Contango Day, Aug 11. Settlement Day, Aug 15.  
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

**SAVILLS**  
**EUROPEAN PROPERTY**

20 Grosvenor Hill · Berkeley Sq London W1X 8E  
Telephone 01 499 8644 · Telex 263795

[illegible]



# Secretarial and General Appointments

## RESEARCHER

Consumer's Association's Campaigning and Representation Unit is responsible for developing research into products and services for the benefit of the consumer. The Unit also scrutinizes proposed legislation and provides evidence for official inquiries in the consumer field.

The Deputy Head of the Unit requires a researcher to assist her. The work will involve desk research including collection and analysis of literature and preparation of written reports.

We are looking for a graduate, probably one who has not taken first degree. The subject area is not important but the person appointed will have to be able to comprehend fairly technical subjects, work neatly and well with colleagues, and present material early, concisely and accurately and to deal with a number of subjects at one time.

Salary around £2415 per annum for a 1 year contract; unceasing Vouchers; five weeks' annual holiday; Pension and Life Assurance Schemes.

Please apply to the Personnel Officer,  
CONSUMERS' ASSOCIATION,  
14 Buckingham Street, London WC2N 6DS.

Tel. 01-839 1222

## DUTCH MOTHER TONGUE

If you were born in Holland, you probably speak Dutch fluently. We are looking for a Dutch mother tongue speaker to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

## BRIEF ENCOUNTER

For a brief encounter, we are looking for a person who can assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

## RECEPTIONIST

We are looking for a receptionist to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

## PA/CLERK

We are looking for a PA/CLERK to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

## INTERVIEWER

We are looking for an interviewer to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

## SECRETARY

We are looking for a secretary to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

## RECEPTIONIST

We are looking for a receptionist to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

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## RECEPTIONIST

We are looking for a receptionist to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

## PA/CLERK

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Young, lively group of companies with excellent artistic and technical staffs. We are looking for a theatre designer to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

## CAREER

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175 New Bond St. W.1. Tel: 01-492 8002. 01-492 8007.

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Regular top level secretaries in advertising, public relations, and other fields. We are looking for a secretary to assist in the translation of Dutch documents. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

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## SECRETARIAL

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Greenwich House, Park Lane, London, W.1. is looking for a mature young lady to work for the Manager of this luxury hotel. The work is part-time and involves a good knowledge of Dutch and English. Salary £2,500 per annum. Apply to: Dutch Mother Tongue, 14, The Strand, London WC2N 6DS.

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### COMMITTEE CLERK/

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Box No replies should be addressed to the Times.  
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For why we live, we live in the Lord, and the Lord is the Lord of the Lord. — Romans 12:5

## BIRTHS

**BAILEY**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to Roger and Gill, a son, James.

**BROOK**—On August 1st, at Peel Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**COOLIDGE**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**CROSS**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**DENNAM**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

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**ELTON**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**GILBERT**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**GORDON**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**MACDONALD**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**MURPHY**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**NEWMAN**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**ROBERTS**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

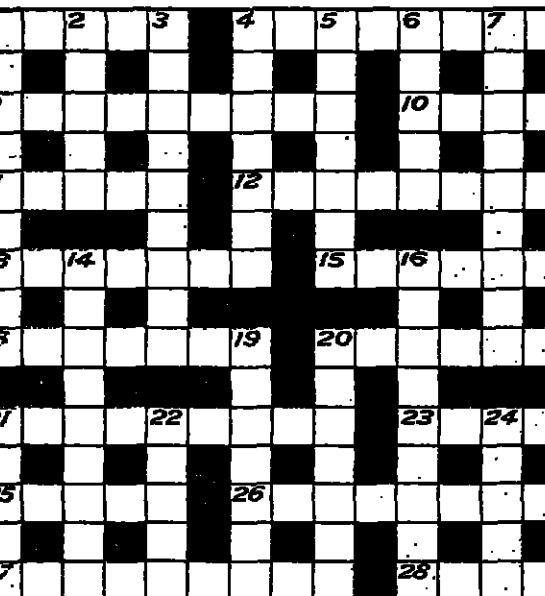
**SMITH**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

**WILSON**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

## MARRIAGES

**ADIE**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

## The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,064



- ACROSS**
- 1 Put money in oil-well in a depression (5)
  - 4 Man's harlequinade part in Act VI (9)
  - 9 Churchman with liabilities on behalf of another (5)
  - 10 Play being performed in London (5)
  - 11 Classical thing about the Spanish dances (5)
  - 12 Secretly right out of bunker, craftily won back points (9)
  - 13 Such leaves are never at variance (7)
  - 15 Closely related to a European legend (5)
  - 16 Vainly might hold one in the act of coming out (7)
  - 20 The lady may be mortal (7)
  - 21 Start another fire of a sort to 11 perhaps (9)
  - 23 Accountant takes the prize, for all his tricks (5)
  - 25 "Cutting off the person's retreat" where spirits are invoked (9)
  - 26 Family man helps to keep the fun (5)
  - 27 Capital feasted for getting platters (7)
- DOWN**
- 1 Cutting off the person's retreat where spirits are invoked (9)
  - 2 Family man helps to keep the fun (5)
  - 3 Capital feasted for getting platters (7)
  - 4 Harvest for Mussolini (7)
  - 5 Nothing short of the south-east and the lunch is best (7)
  - 6 A useful deficiency (5)
  - 7 The potatoe was mashed for Mr. Bates (9)
  - 8 Frenchwoman's fabric (5)
  - 14 Main hazard—speed can get us tied up (4-5)
  - 16 A bad case, in tears, but set up again (9)
  - 17 People's paying, Sel, maybe (5)
  - 19 ... relating to their flower (7)
  - 20 Wanted to be a schoolmaster indeed (7)
  - 21 Wiped out a bankrupt (7)
  - 22 She may catch old soldiers (5)
  - 24 Subaqueous god? (5)
- Solution of Puzzle No 14,063**
1. CUTTING OFF THE PERSON'S RETREAT WHERE SPIRITS ARE INVOKED (9)  
2. FAMILY MAN HELPS TO KEEP THE FUN (5)  
3. CAPITAL FEASTED FOR GETTING PLATTERS (7)  
4. HARVEST FOR MUSSOLINI (7)  
5. NOTHING SHORT OF THE SOUTH-EAST AND THE LUNCH IS BEST (7)  
6. A USEFUL DEFICIENCY (5)  
7. THE POTATOE WAS MASHED FOR MR. BATES (9)  
8. FRENCHWOMAN'S FABRIC (5)  
9. CHURCHMAN WITH LIABILITIES ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER (5)  
10. PLAY BEING PERFORMED IN LONDON (5)  
11. CLASSICAL THING ABOUT THE SPANISH DANCES (5)  
12. SECRETLY RIGHT OUT OF BUNKER, CRAFTILY WON BACK POINTS (9)  
13. SUCH LEAVES ARE NEVER AT VARIANCE (7)  
14. MAIN HAZARD—SPEED CAN GET US TIED UP (4-5)  
15. CLOSELY RELATED TO A EUROPEAN LEGEND (5)  
16. VAINLY MIGHT HOLD ONE IN THE ACT OF COMING OUT (7)  
17. PEOPLE'S PAYING, SEL, MAYBE (5)  
18. FRENCHWOMAN'S FABRIC (5)  
19. ... RELATING TO THEIR FLOWER (7)  
20. WANTED TO BE A SCHOOLMASTER INDEED (7)  
21. WIPED OUT A BANKRUPT (7)  
22. SHE MAY CATCH OLD SOLDIERS (5)  
23. ACCOUNTANT TAKES THE PRIZE, FOR ALL HIS TRICKS (5)  
24. SUBAQUEOUS GOD? (5)  
25. "CUTTING OFF THE PERSON'S RETREAT WHERE SPIRITS ARE INVOKED" (9)  
26. FAMILY MAN HELPS TO KEEP THE FUN (5)  
27. CAPITAL FEASTED FOR GETTING PLATTERS (7)

## DEATHS

**MARRIAGES**—On August 1st, at St. Paul Hospital, to John and Gill, a son, James.

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## PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 21

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The Imperial Cancer Research Fund is seeking a donor of £100 to fund a research project in the field of cancer research.

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A selection of Albany Hotel holiday homes for sale, including a 18th-century house in the Cotswolds.

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## GREECE &amp; SPAIN

**BY AIR AUG. & SEPT.**  
A selection of holiday packages to Greece and Spain, including a 7-day tour of the Greek Islands and a 10-day tour of the Spanish coast.

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**SUMMER LASTS LONGER IN CORSICA**  
A selection of holiday packages to Corsica, including a 7-day tour of the island and a 10-day tour of the French coast.

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**MAJORCA**  
A selection of holiday packages to Majorca, including a 7-day tour of the island and a 10-day tour of the Spanish coast.

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**TRAVELAIR**  
A selection of Travelair holiday packages, including a 7-day tour of the British Isles and a 10-day tour of Scotland.

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**SUNDANCE MOROCCO**  
A selection of Sundance Morocco holiday packages, including a 7-day tour of the Moroccan coast and a 10-day tour of the Moroccan interior.

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A selection of Africa Specialists holiday packages, including a 7-day tour of the African continent and a 10-day tour of the African interior.

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## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**SUNDANCE MOROCCO**  
A selection of Sundance Morocco holiday packages, including a 7-day tour of the Moroccan coast and a 10-day tour of the Moroccan interior.

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**POUND-SAVERS**  
A selection of Pound-Savers holiday packages, including a 7-day tour of the British Isles and a 10-day tour of Scotland.

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**AFRICA SPECIALISTS**  
A selection of Africa Specialists holiday packages, including a 7-day tour of the African continent and a 10-day tour of the African interior.

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## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

## POLLUTED IT AINT

**ALMONDS**  
A selection of almond products, including a 7-day tour of the almond orchards and a 10-day tour of the almond interior.

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**SUNMED HOLIDAYS**  
A selection of Sunmed holiday packages, including a 7-day tour of the British Isles and a 10-day tour of Scotland.

## HOLIDAYS AND VILLAS

**AUGUST VACANCIE**  
A selection of August Vacancie holiday packages, including a 7-day tour of the British Isles and a 10-day tour of Scotland.

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